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REVOLUTION IN CHINA.

We do not know whether the word Revolution, in its ordinary sense of political change, can justly be applied to the series of extraordinary events that are now taking place in the old and effete empire of China. Yet, although our information at present is but scanty, imperfect, and contradictory, sufficient seems to be known to prove that a vast social, if not political, regeneration of that country is at hand. A populous region, hitherto almost hermetically sealed against the rest of the world, is about to be laid open to the influences of Christianity, and of the fertile ideas of Western Europe. The artificially stunted tree is to be allowed to shoot up; and the system of nature is to replace to some extent, not yet clearly discernible, the antiquated and artificial system which has so long held the Chinese in tutelage and imprisonment, and prevented the legitimate development of their race. The rebellion under TIEN-TEH has held head too successfully against all the forces that the Emperor could bring against it, has achieved too many victories, and has established itself too firmly over the best parts of the Empire, to permit the world to doubt the fact—even though our acquaintance with the details is not of the most reliable kind—that the old Chinese policy, both internal and external, has received a shock from which it cannot recover.

The Christian character of the rebellion, of which mention was made in this Journal on the 4th of June last, has been confirmed by all recent letters and despatches from China. The rebels having taken possession of Nankin, and holding, by this means, the key of the Empire, Sir George Bonham, Governor of Hong-Kong, and British Plenipotentiary in China, proceeded up the Yang-tse-Kiang in April last, in her Majesty's ship *Hermes*, to announce to TIEN-TEH the neutrality of the British Government. This was prudent and wise policy. It is no part of the duty of Great Britain to uphold any

established Government against the wants and wishes of the native population, even although such a Government should be more reasonable in its conduct towards us, and more desirable in itself, than the Tartar dynasty of China has ever proved. In proceeding up the river, Sir George Bonham had abundant evidence that the revolution—or insurrection, whichever it may be—partook largely of the iconoclastic character. The waters were strewn with the fragments of images and idols, which the insurgents had broken up. The Plenipotentiary sought and obtained an audience with the Chief; and in a document bearing his signature and those of other British *attachés* to his mission, which is published in the *North China Herald*, that reached Europe by the last mail, &c., gives TIEN-TEH the title of "His Majesty," and claims protection for British trade and for British subjects in every part of the Empire where that personage may penetrate. Sir George also procured some of the religious books which are circulated by and held sacred among the rebels, from which it appears evident that Christian ideas, although rude and corrupted, have taken possession of their minds. Whether the form of Christianity be derived from the Jesuits, or from the Protestant missions, it is impossible to state. Neither of them has much reason to boast of the proficiency of their pupils; for the Christianity of TIEN-TEH and his followers possesses little of the pure and holy spirit of the Gospel, but much of the spirit of persecution and wickedness. Elsewhere will be found a *fac-simile* of the papers which have for years past been circulated among the Chinese by the Protestant missionaries of England, with a view to the dissemination of the great truths of Christianity in a manner likely to excite and retain the attention of the natives. But, from all we can learn of the sentiments and opinions in the camp of TIEN-TEH (the Prince of Peace), he "preaches peace with warlike meanings;" and has embraced Christianity only to disfigure and pollute it. The "Triad societies," of which the original object was the expulsion

of the Tartar Emperors, and the Tartar race, and the establishment of a native dynasty and government, have nursed the rebellion, and supplied it with its armies. A spurious kind of Christianity has been engrafted upon this root; and the result is, not only the rebellion, but an explanation and defence of it, in the shape of a politico-theological and poetical manifesto, entitled "the Trimetrical Classic." Each verse of this curious document consists of four lines, and each line of three words. It recapitulates the leading facts in the Old and New Testaments, with occasionally a perversion or misinterpretation, which would be ludicrous were the consequences not so important; and adds to this a short summary of Chinese History since the birth of Jesus Christ until the year 1837. At that period "a younger brother of Jesus Christ," bearing the name of HUNG-SEW-TSEUEN, appeared in China, whose mission was to subdue the "King of Hell." In this mission he is declared to have succeeded, and to have ascended into heaven; leaving his ulterior object—the expulsion of the Tartars and the establishment of Christianity—to be accomplished by his successor, TIEN-TEH, the present leader of the rebel forces. The mission of HUNG-SEW-TSEUEN is described in the following lines literally translated from the "Trimetrical Classic:"—

God has sent his Son
With orders to come down into the world,
Having first studied the classics.
In the Ting-Yew year (1837)
He was received up into heaven,
Where the affairs of heaven
Were clearly pointed out to him.
The great God
Personally instructed him,
Gave him odes and documents,
And communicated to him the true doctrine.
God also gave him a seal,
And conferred upon him a sword,
Connected with authority,
And Majesty irresistible.
He bade him, together with the elder brother,
Namely Jesus,
To drive away impish fiends,



WALLACHIAN PEASantry AND TROOPS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

With the co-operation of angels.
There was one who looked on with envy,
Namely, the King of Hades;
Who displayed much malignity,
And acted like a devilish serpent.
But the great God,
With a high hand,
Instructed his Son
To subdue this fiend.

Having overcome the fiend,
He returned to heaven,
Where the great God
Gave him much authority.

The mission of TIEN-TEH is described in a similar style:—

In the Mow-Shin year (1848)
The great God came down into the world;
Where he instructed His Son
How to sustain the weight of Government.
God has set up His Son (Tien-Teh)
To endure for ever,
To defeat corrupt machinations,
And to display majesty and authority.
Also to judge the world.
To divide the righteous from the wicked;
And consign them to the misery of hell,
Or bestow on them the joys of heaven.
Heaven manages every thing,
Heaven sustains the whole:
Let all beneath the sky
Come and acknowledge
The new monarch.

The actual amount of Christianity in the mind or purpose of the leaders of the Chinese rebellion may be judged of from these extracts. It must be stated, however, that, if their creed be corrupt, their morals are described by the English in China to be purer than those of the Chinese in general; and that, with the exception of their ferocity in war, they may stand in favourable contrast with the Tartars and Buddhists, against whom they are engaged. In this respect, however, their practice, though repugnant to true Christian doctrine, differs in no perceptible respect from the conduct of more decided Christians in other parts of the world.

The people of Europe, distracted as they are with the fears of more important events at home, yet look forward with daily increasing interest to the progress and termination of this rebellion. They see in it the large possibility of good to the whole human race. If TIEN-TEH succeed, he is likely to prove a more enlightened and neighbourly Potentate than the successive Emperors of the present Tartar dynasty have ever shown themselves to be. He claims to be the representative of the native Chinese—a race who, in all ages, of which we have any record, have exhibited patience, industry, and ingenuity, and who in more recent times have proved in themselves the possession of curiosity and enterprise sufficient to cross the Pacific and to help to colonise California. If imbued with Christian ideas, as there is every reason to believe, he will, of necessity, attempt to break down the barriers which have so long shut up this remarkable country and people from the great world around them. Even should he not succeed, the narrow escape of the present Emperor will, perhaps, teach the alien rulers of the Chinese to rely more upon the people, and upon the neighbourhood of humanity than they have hitherto done. In either case, events seem rapidly ripening towards great changes. The Far East, we cannot doubt, will, sooner or later, be emancipated from the semi-barbarous and utterly unsocial policy which, in the pride and ignorance both of rulers and of people, has for long ages prevailed amongst them. Even the spurious Christianity of TIEN-TEH, and the "Trimetricai Classic" will operate for good. It will open the eyes of the multitude to blessings that have been long denied or concealed, and will lead the people in due time to strive for a fuller and purer comprehension of that true religion which civilises and refines the world.

THE MOLDAVIANS AND WALLACHIANS.

MODERN travellers are struck by the resemblance of the Wallachians of the present day to the traits of the Dacian captives sculptured in marble on Trajan's Column at Rome. The people are proud of their noble origin, traceable to the Dacians and the Romans; and the memory of their ancient prowess and condition, and their traditions, faithfully handed down and cherished by the poorest for a period of eighteen hundred years, still exercise an empire over them which cannot fail to make them impatient under the ignoble yoke of Russia.

The regions now divided under the names of Wallachia, Moldavia, and Transylvania, formed the kingdom of those terrible Dacians so frequently mentioned in the odes of Horace. They were descended from the Scythians, or Sarmatians, and were, at one period, so formidable to Rome, that Domitian accepted the terms of a disgraceful peace, dictated by Decebalus, one of their Kings. Trajan, to revenge this defeat, twice led his victorious legions to the shores of the Danube. The Dacian kingdom fell under Roman sway, and Roman colonies took possession of the territory so long plunged in barbarism. Up to the third century the country was governed by one of the Roman prætors, but when an invasion of Goths and Huns fell upon Dacia, the Emperor Aurelian recalled his colonies, and the country fell a prey to various races of barbarians. The name Wallach is declared by the Wallachians to be a modern appellation, only known to history since the twelfth century, and applied to them by foreigners alone. The people of the Principality call themselves Rouman, Roman; they call their native country Wallachia, "Tsara Roumaneska," Roman land. The Wallachians consist of the Roman eagle, to which a cross has been added. M. Demidoff adds:—

If, in the last place we look at the masculine and robust physiognomy of the population, bearing an incredible resemblance to the Transylvanians of the present day; if we search into their language, their games, their festivals, we shall find undoubted traces of the glorious origin to which the Wallachians lay claim.

M. Demidoff is distinctly of opinion that the people of Wallachia are representatives of the Dacians and Romans; and that the Slavonians who came into the country as conquerors constitute the nobility of the land. The belief that the Wallachians are descendants of the Roman colonists sent by Trajan into Dacia derives some further confirmation from the fact that the Wallachian language is apparently derived from the Latin. According to Thunman not less than one-half of all the Wallachian words are Latin. The Wallachians are not confined to Wallachia; but also inhabit Moldavia and some parts of South-Western Russia. The higher classes in the Moldo-Wallachian provinces show themselves inclined to adopt European civilisation, but the lower classes are an ignorant and idle race, depraved by the tyranny of their Turkish masters. Instances of premeditated murder rarely occur; with but few exceptions this crime is committed in drunkenness, wine in Wallachia being very abundant and cheap. The laws punish murder with death, but capital punishment has fallen into disuse, and sentence of death is commuted to perpetual labour in the salt works. The religion is that of the schismatic Greek Church, as it is called by the "orthodox" Russians. It does not appear to hold any great empire over the minds of the people, but they observe its outward forms, and particularly the austerities of fasting, with scrupulous exactitude. The people attend Divine service with every sign of respect, and the number of churches in Wallachia and Moldavia bear witness to the ardent zeal with which outward worship is honoured. Education is so well attended to, that in a few years there will be but few who cannot read and write. The annual tribute paid to the Porte by Wallachia amounts to 1,400,000 piastres, which is in future to be paid to the Russian Commander-in-Chief. The monies current in Wallachia and Moldavia are the Russian silver rouble, the golden ducat, the Austrian zwanziger, and the Turkish piastre, aspre, and para.

The various castes composing the population are divided into three classes—the Boyards, the Wallachian husbandmen, and the Tsigans or Gipsies. The Boyards are the possessors of the soil; but they are for the most part poor and embarrassed. Exclusive masters of all public offices, exempt from all the burdens of the State, these proud noblemen have given themselves up to luxury, which has undermined

the fortunes of the whole class. M. Demidoff gives the following graphic description of the Wallachian Boyards:—

Nothing can be more elegant than their personal state and retinue, which is always somewhat theatrical; but if we remove from the presence of the chief of the house, and throw a glance at his tribe of tattered and idle retainers, at his equipage, too numerous to be elegant, at his vast and dilapidated mansion, we are struck with the melancholy and wretchedness lying beneath this appearance of luxury. The refined manners of the master, the gracious air and talents of the women of his family, the facility and correctness with which the languages of Central Europe are spoken by them; the taste, the tact, the very frivolity of the conversation—everything combines to show that this society is equal to the most distinguished in Europe; but, beyond the door of the drawing-room, a filthy and repulsive crowd of idle servants and gipsies, scattered about the ante-rooms, and sleeping on the very staircases, remind you that you are in Wallachia, and that all this civilisation has not shaken off the muddy crust which envelops it, and deprives it of all its lustre.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

ALL the world is flocking hither to be present at the Fête of the 15th. The dead season is coming to life—awakening, for the moment, from the effects of the moral chloroform administered to it every year to keep its existence in suspension till the return, real or supposed, of the modern French, the foreign and diplomatic aristocracy of the Faubourg St. Honoré, and the aristocracy of wealth and commerce of the Chaussée d'Antin; that of the Faubourg St. Germain can now hardly be considered to count in the living and moving world of amusement, occupation, and display. Lodgings are letting; railroads are discharging vast cargoes of foreigners and provincials; *cafés* become perfect Babels; *cochers de fiacres* enrich themselves with the sums of which they cheat those innocents—a *tout Seigneur, tout honneur*; however, they are not nearly so bold or so expert at this game as their London *confères*. And the most beautiful and striking portions of the capital are being rendered unsightly and untidy masses of scaffolding, litter, and paving-stones, for a fortnight before and a fortnight after this grand affair of a few hours, which is expected to cost the bagatelle of a hundred thousand pounds, taken from the pockets of a people who never fail to swear or jeer at all such national demonstrations: witness the fête of last year, in which *les illuminations* were called *les humiliations* by the people, for whose especial edification and divertissement they were supposed to be displayed. No one, be it fully understood, likes to amuse him or herself better, or perhaps so well, as the Parisian *ouvrier, badaud, gamin, or grisette*; but they like to do it in their own way—to provide amusement for themselves, and to take a part in it; to visit *sourban fêtes* and fairs, where they buy *meritons* and gingerbread, ride wooden horses, dance, drink, and make love. These spectacles of plaster and tinsel decorations, and flying flags and coloured lamps, which give them nothing to do but crowd and stare—which cost money they have not the slightest desire so to spend—which put their Place de la Concorde, their Champs Elysées, their *quais*, of which they are justly so fond and so proud, in a state of disfigurement, disorder, and confusion perfectly disgusting to behold, for at least a month—excite feelings of anger and ridicule, instead of pleasure and admiration; and we are fully persuaded that the policy which supposes that the working classes find in these fêtes a distraction which serves to keep them in good humour, is one of the most mistaken notions of modern times.

A *Napoleonienne* banquet is to take place at the Jardin d'Hiver, on the 14th, in order to leave the guests free for the fête of the following day. It is to be presided over by M. Belmontel, who last year held the same post on a similar occasion, at the Thermes, the suburb immediately outside the barrières de l'Etoile, de Courcelles, &c.

The walls of Paris are placarded with immense bills, depicting in a huge woodcut the attractive horrors of the bull-fights at Bruxelles, which excite so much curiosity and attention here, that the administration of the Northern Railroad is said to be in treaty with those of Belgium to organise monster pleasure-trains, to enable the Parisians to prod by these edifying and humanising diversions.

On Sunday a grand dinner was given at the Palace at St. Cloud, to the Queen Marie Christine, at which were present the *ex-roi* Jerome and his son, the Princesse Mathilde, the Duc de Riançares, &c. In the evening the troupe of the Théâtre Français performed "Le Mari à la Campagne."

The *ex-roi* Jerome and the Prince Napoleon have broken the ice, by visiting the Queen at the Malmaison. Some persons are still of opinion that there is more truth than is generally supposed to be in the report of the alliance at that quarter. The young lady selected by rumour as the bride-elect of the Prince, is extremely graceful and attractive, qualities which are likely strongly to influence his choice. However, we must add, that this idea is extremely partial, and we suspect there is little cause for its foundation at present. The Empress has presented to M. Auguste L'Eveillé a large silver medal, bearing her effigy, as a proof of her approval and acceptance of the dedication of a volume of religious poems, of which he is the author. The Prince Napoleon intends, it is said, to organise a series of receptions during the winter, to which all the principal artists and men of letters are to be invited. A report has gone about, as such reports never fail to do on such occasions, that a general amnesty was to be declared on the 15th instant. It appears that the foundation of the rumour consists in the fact that the Minister de la Justice is preparing a *travail* for a certain number of partial pardons, or commutations of punishment, but nothing more.

The *correspondance particulière* of the *Independence Belge* states a project of the Duc de Nemours to visit Frohsdorf, and half promises its readers the perusal of two letters on the subject, one written by the Comte de Chambord himself. It also states the intention of that Prince shortly to visit England.

The appearance of the "Trois Sultanes" (why thus named we know not, as the heroines are *four* slaves, of whom one becomes Sultana) has had a marked success, partly, perhaps, from the somewhat singular circumstances of its presentation. Madame Ugalde, long prima donna of the Opéra Comique, having quarrelled—as prima donnas are often given to do—with the manager of that theatre, on the subject of the relative proportions of the salaries of herself and Mlle. Caroline Duprez—the result of this difference was her leaving the theatre, and entering into an engagement at the comparatively insignificant one of the Variétés—not as a singer, but as a *comédienne*.

"Les Trois Sultanes," an old but once highly-popular piece of Favart, formerly belonging to the *répertoire* of the Théâtre Français, was selected, revised, and modernised for her *début*, which, as we have said, proved highly successful. Certain critics pretend that the *apparent coup de tête* which led Madame Ugalde to desert the Opéra Comique, had in it more of calculation than of hastiness; that no one was more fully aware than herself of certain failings in her voice, which only repose could hope to recover—supposing they were recoverable; and that her idea in the act was to display her powers as an actress, to ensure a career in this line before it became necessary to abandon that of a singer. If such were the case, she has done wisely. One of the most attractive spectacles of the moment, having the immense advantage of coolness and air, in addition to its brilliancy and variety, is the display of the *fêtes de nuit* at the Hippodrome. All of the *beau monde* that remain in Paris and the environs, all the "distinguished foreigners," everybody, in short, flock to these amusing and effective performances, which exhibit attractions as varied as they are interesting, uniting feats of horsemanship, juggling, *tours de force*, military evolutions, dancing, fantastic processions; wonders of all sorts for persons of all ages.

As the final crisis of the Eastern negotiation approaches, some misgivings are felt upon the Paris Bourse as to its pacific termination. The explanations given by Lord Clarendon in the House of Lords on Tuesday night (*vide* Supplement), respecting the proceedings of the Russian Government in the Danubian provinces, produced an unfavourable effect on the speculators at the Bourse. The demand of the British Government for explanations as to the extraordinary and oppressive conduct of the Russians in the Principalities will, it is thought, convince the Emperor that the time is past when the mask in which he has hitherto shrouded his policy can still be worn.

It is admitted in Paris that the moderation of Lord Aberdeen has

been productive of results which, perhaps, the French Cabinet could not so easily obtain. While it may still be a question open to discussion, or to doubt, whether, in the event of war, Austria and Prussia would take a decided part with England and France against Russia, yet the adhesion of those powers to the policy of resistance to the aggressive designs of the Emperor Nicholas is of the utmost value, and it is not denied by the French Government that that adhesion is chiefly, if not entirely, owing to the manner in which Lord Aberdeen's Cabinet has conducted the negotiations up to the present moment, and perhaps to the personal influence of that noble Lord. The Emperor of Russia up to a comparatively recent date, could not believe that a common action was possible between England and France on the present, or indeed any other question; and this belief very probably led him too far to easily recede. It is positively asserted in the political circles of Paris, that all hesitation or evasion, or delay, on any pretext whatever, will be taken by the European Governments as a refusal to accept the propositions of arrangement, which form a middle term between the demands of one and the concessions of the other, and to evacuate the Danubian Principalities. The belief is general that the English Government is unanimous in its resolution to resist the encroachments of Russia; that it has duly and maturely weighed all the consequences of that resistance; that though most earnestly desirous of maintaining peace, it will not shrink from that resistance, even should war be the consequence; and that it is well aware that if war were the consequence it would be general. The attitude taken by France is equally decided.

The Prefect of the Basses Pyrenées has been officially informed that the journey of the Emperor and Empress to Pau has been postponed, and will not take place this season.

Letters from Brest state that a certain activity is displayed in the arming of vessels.

The French Government have instructed their Consul-General at Bucharest to remove his flag.

DENMARK.

The Danish Government have caused a bill, or draft-project, to be published, containing some modifications, unfavourable to popular liberty, of the Constitution now in force; but this bill is to be submitted to the discussion and vote of the Chambers when they re-assemble; and it has not been promulgated by Royal authority.

We receive from Copenhagen alarming reports of the ravages of the cholera. From the 25th to the 26th ult. there were announced 303 new cases, of whom 133 died, making altogether 4134 cases, with 2174 deaths. In one of the newspapers the proposition is made in order to find space where the sick can be brought out of their wretched damp habitations, chiefly cellar lodging, and better bestowed for medical attendance, that the houses of those should be taken who have deserted the town. The number of these is estimated as high as 30,000: their lodgings are known by the windows being coloured throughout on the inside with whitewash. The most frequent passengers in the streets are the carpenters' people carrying home the coffins; omnibuses convey full loads of corpses to the burying grounds, where hands are insufficient to dig the graves, and clerics are wanting to read the burial service. Last Sunday, 170 coffins were lying in one churchyard, exposed to the broiling sun, and had lain there since the Thursday previous. The Council, which was held last Saturday, under the presidency of the King, to take into consideration what measures could be adopted to stay the plague, arrived at no satisfactory conclusion or resolution. The people attribute this to the incapacity of the Ministers, who, doubtless, have enough to engross their attention in their own political embarrassments. The lower orders divide their day between work and funerals; the reckless are to be heard rollicking in taverns, and shouting, "Let us eat and drink, for to-morrow we die." The rich have applied within the last few days to the number of 14,000 for passports to leave the place; the Hereditary Prince and his consort have resolved on staying in Copenhagen to serve as an encouragement and an example. A committee has been formed for preventing the extension of the cholera; they cause all the wretched inhabitants of still more wretched tenements to be brought into better dwellings, and feed and clothe them; the police have dispersed a number of "rookeries" or poor lodging-houses—the women and children are found in almost all cases destitute of body and bed linen. The committee has already received 25,000 reichsbankthalers in contributions.

The people of Hamburg—which town has hitherto escaped a visit from the cholera—are bestirring themselves to send medical and pecuniary assistance to Copenhagen.

PORTUGAL.

By the *City of London* steamer we have dates from Lisbon to the 30th ult. We hear of the renewal of negotiations, and the probability of an arrangement between the Government and the Bank of Portugal; but no hope was entertained of an understanding with the foreign fundholders while Portugal failed to recognise the claims of its creditors. The railroad contract, approved by the Lower House, ran some risk of rejection by the Peers. The Cortes were expected to close about the 5th inst. The grape disease continued to spread, and was likely to become a serious affair to a country like Portugal, which depends so much upon its wines. A public meeting had been called upon the subject for the 1st inst., at the office of the Lisbon Commercial Association.

AMERICA.

By the United States mail steam-ship *Pacific*, we have advices from New York to the 23rd ult. It is stated that the appointment of Mr. J. A. Dix as Minister to France is not to be confirmed for the present, owing to strong representations from the Southern States.

Considerable interest had been occasioned at New York by the arrival of the British ship *Crown*, from Liverpool, having on board fifty head of Durham cattle, a celebrated Cleveland bay horse, a Neapolitan sow, and a fine litter of pigs. Some of the cattle were from the stock of Lord Feversham, and the expense of introducing them into America may be inferred from the fact that one bull and heifer cost 525 guineas. A portion of the stock was intended for Mr. R. Atchison, Alexander, one of the most wealthy young men of Kentucky, and the remainder belonged to a company of farmers, in the counties of Fayette, Bourbon, and Woodford, in that State.

Letters from New Mexico announce the withdrawal of the Mexican troops from Mevilla Valley, by an order from the Government. The citizens of Santa Fé had petitioned Congress for the removal of the Indians from that State.

The coroner's inquest on the persons killed in the Gavazzi riots at Montreal have been brought to a conclusion, but the jury were unable to agree upon a verdict. The result caused great excitement in Montreal. A court-martial had been commenced on the officers and men engaged in the affair.

We have been permitted to make the following interesting extract from the letter of an Englishman now in South America. It is dated "Iquique, 19th June." He crossed from Navy Bay to Panama, which he describes as the most detestable journey he ever made. He says:—

The Americans are making a railway between the two places, and have got the first eighteen miles finished. The difficulties have been tremendous, as it goes through a swamp. They piled it with piles from twelve to eighteen feet deep, and then laid the rails on the top of the longitudinal tie-beams. They are now filling it up with the spoil from the cuttings further on; and in course of time it will become a good line. One of their great difficulties has been to get men, as the strongest do not stand it above two months on the average. It was said, at one time, that every foot finished had cost a man's life; but I was told that the total number of lives lost did not exceed 4000. They ship them away to New York as soon as the climate affects them, to give them, as the superintendent told me, "a chance for their lives."

I have been up at the Leviteria with Mr. Smith (the place where the nitrate is principally worked), and we remained there three days examining the nitrate grounds; they are of extraordinary richness; and I should pronounce them inexhaustible. The manner of making the nitrate, and extracting it afterwards, is the roughest that can be conceived, and for every ton they get they waste ten.

After carefully examining the grounds, I am of opinion that they have not been deposited from a salt lake; but my experience is not sufficient to enable me to form an opinion how they have been formed, except to say that there is not the smallest evidence to support the opinion that they are of volcanic origin.

The mines in this province are very rich, but the high price of labour prevents them being worked to any great extent at present.

I like this place very much, but the inhabitants of this coast are almost all poor; and many of them are deep in debt. If they get money into their hands they never rise from cards till it is all spent. Gentlemen were pointed out to me at Lima that have lost £20,000 in one night; and it is nothing uncommon for a working-man to lose £100 at one sitting.

Much as Australia and California have been praised, I doubt if a man will do better there than here, provided he remains steady. Seven men are each getting £1 per day, loading nitrate for us; and the lowest wages are 7s. to 10s. per day; while living is not higher here than in England, with the exception of clothes.

The young men sent out by the commercial houses in England are, with rare exceptions, deep in debt, though they have large salaries; and extravagance among all classes is the order of day.

CALIFORNIA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

SAN FRANCISCO, June 15th, 1853.

The change that has taken place in the tone of moral society in this country in the last three years is greater than those who have not been resident here can form any just conception of. The sudden and great development of its abundant mineral wealth brought quickly to its shores a numerous and most heterogeneous population, amongst whom were men of loose principles—who considered fraud in business transactions smart and clever, who frequented the gambling-tables (which by day and night were never closed), and who, in short, indulged in all kinds of licentiousness. For a time large accessions of *expatriates* from the Australian colonies, and of most abandoned characters from Spanish America and other parts, continued to pour in; and as from the new and unformed municipal state of the city they had free scope for the display of their ruling passions; they quickly plunged the better portion of the community into consternation at the audacity and frequency of their robberies and murders. The judicial executive was unable to meet the evil; so the citizens, taking the matter into their own hands, formed themselves into a Vigilant Committee, and by the steadiness and earnestness of their purpose, and the activity of their operations, quickly purged the country of the band who had almost taken possession of it.

From that time society has been settling down to the order and moral tone of olden countries; and at the present day gambling, although left untouched by any legislative enactment, has almost died out—being confined almost exclusively to those whose profession it is, and to people from Spanish America. Substantial stone and brick churches are being raised in all parts of the city—public libraries and reading-rooms are established—lectures on literary and scientific subjects are frequently delivered—debating societies (not political) have their meetings—and extensive provision is being made for the support of public schools and charitable institutions.

We have been in great measure led to these remarks by a kind of epidemic mania for duelling that has broken out upon us during the last two weeks—outraging public opinion, and setting order at defiance. This barbarous and absurd practice was at one time so common and ridiculous, and cast such a stigma upon California, that it was made a law of the state that all concerned in duelling should be disfranchised, and disqualified from holding any office in the state.

This law, and the death, in a duel, about a year since, of a Mr. Gilbert, the editor of the *Alta California*, who commanded the respect and esteem of his fellow-citizens for his talents and moral worth, put a check to this barbarous practice, till the spell was broken last week by a hostile meeting between Dr. Gwin, Senator, and Mr. McCorkle, Representative of this state at Washington. They met a short distance from this city, with rifles at sixty paces; and, after delivering ineffectual shots, explanations were entered into; they found out that the one did not mean this, and the other did not intend that; that they had been altogether misunderstood; so they returned home very ridiculous, and of course very dignified. Three days after, another meeting was arranged between Mr. Nugent, editor of the *San Francisco Herald*, and Mr. Alderman Hayer—the subject an offensive “leader.” They met also with rifles, but at twenty paces. They both fired without hitting; but, as they “meant mischief,” at the second fire Nugent’s arm was shattered, and the ball traversed the muscles of his back. He has since been in a very dangerous state, but to-day his physicians report favourably. The next day a third meeting occurred between two young men who came to this country together, and who had been friends for years—a silly private quarrel and a challenge. They met with army revolvers; the second shot Mr. Toby mortally wounded Dr. Crane in the abdomen, and he was taken home to die. To-day there are rumours of two other duels.

Public feeling is disgusted with these criminal and barbaric doings; and it is felt that our community is disgraced in the eyes of the civilised world.

Our population is steadily on the increase. By the last quarterly Custom-house returns, the number of passengers who have entered this country by sea are as follows:—Men, 16,495; women, 2924; children, 477; making a total of 19,898. Of this number, 12,765 have left during the same interval; so that we have an increase of 7121.

This year’s overland emigration has not yet commenced to arrive: by the eastern papers we learn that, according to the most reliable information, the number will far exceed that of the two previous years, and will not be less than 60,000. The class of emigrants are said to be chiefly agriculturists, who are bringing over the plains, with their families, their horses, herds, flocks, and farming implements.

The French population in California is also much on the increase. Of the arrivals last quarter, 1233 have been French; and, according to the *Echo du Pacifique*—one of their journals in this city—there are not less, at this time, in this country, than 32,000; and that, before the end of this year, that number will be increased an additional 5000.

Probably this city contains 8000. They are engaged in all occupations. They are bankers, physicians, speculators in land, importers, wholesale merchants, retail-dealers, mechanics, and day-labourers. They are from all parts of France, from Paris, from the North and the South, and from Alsace. They preserve all the characteristics of their country—they live together, have their own cafés, restaurants, estaminets, and billiards. They learn our language very slowly; probably because very few of them intend to make California their permanent home. They cannot avoid the error of comparing this country, the growth of only five years, with their own, the growth of a thousand; and, as they see it, the comparison is very much in favour of the latter. With the exception of Tahiti, the French have no foothold of their own on the Pacific; but, they have no inconsiderable commerce, and San Francisco is fast becoming the head and dépôt of this commerce. The French almost monopolise some professions here—such as the importation of wine, fine cookery, wig-making, and gardening. They have the largest gambling-house in the city, and are well represented in the others. They have a theatre with a good troupe, which they support well. They have a benevolent society, which has expended large sums of money, and done much good; and they have two newspapers, which are well conducted; but, unlike the German population, of whom we shall speak in another letter, they take but little interest in local or party politics, from the fact, we presume, of their not amalgamating with the people.

Our report of the mines for the past two weeks is again most encouraging. From north to south the mines are doing well, and in many localities are taking out immense quantities of gold. The numerous water companies that have already been completed, or are now nearly finished, will render an immense track of auriferous earth available. Gigantic operations are on foot to facilitate the working of still other fields, which have been lying untouched for want of water. The extent of virgin earth now being worked is as large as it has ever been within the last two years. As fast as the diggings in one place are exhausted, new ones are discovered in some other locality.—M.

CHINA.

Letters and papers from China confirm the telegraphic announcement, inserted in our last, of the fall of Nankin; and add that Amoy has been taken by the insurgents, whom, it seems, our Plenipotentiary begins to recognise as reigning authorities. We have also increased, though still insufficient and perplexing, information of the religious characteristics of the revolution, which forms the subject of an article in another column. The great insurrectionary movement of the disciples of Tai-ping-wang, which is interpreted to mean “the Prince of Peace,” has nowhere been effectually resisted by the Imperialist troops, and on every point on which the Mandarins and the Manchoo authorities have been attacked they have been routed and overthrown. Upon the Mandarins and Tartar troops the rebels make war with great ferocity, and many thousands of them have been slain. The general course pursued by the middling and trading classes, which are so numerous in China seems to be to barricade themselves in their houses, and to take no part in the contest until it should be more clearly seen which side is likely to come off victorious. Upon the rivers and in the chief maritime cities the Imperialists had still some hold, because the insurgents appear to be inferior to them in their war junks, or means of water communication. But Amoy had fallen into the power of the enemy on the 19th of May, after a severe combat, and a subsequent attempt of a Chinese admiral to retake the place was repulsed with loss. For the present everything is paralysed by uncertainty and terror. In the fertile district of Fokien trade is for a time suspended, and an outbreak was anticipated at Canton, which may be productive of still more serious consequences. The next mail will be looked for with great interest.

CHRISTIANITY IN CHINA.

We have been favoured by a Correspondent (Mr. W. Bramston, Blomfield-terrace, Paddington), with the accompanying Illustration of the means by which the texts of Christianity have for many years been promulgated by Protestant missionaries in China.

Mr. Bramston states that, when in China, he was daily at the house of the late Rev. Dr. Morrison, and at that time they were busily engaged in taking texts from the Bible, printed in Chinese characters, with a picture on one side to call the attention of the Chinese, similar to one here engraved. These were pasted up and cir-



culated at Macao, Canton, and Honan. Some of the lithographs were executed by Mr. Bramston. The printing-press was removed from Macao to Canton, on account of the Portuguese Governor prohibiting the printing at Macao, as it was contrary to their faith that the Holy Scriptures should be made known amongst the people. Many thousands of texts were printed in this manner. It was simply the Word of God that was circulated in this way, and it was generally gladly received. Sometimes the late Mr. Morrison (eldest son of Dr. Morrison) and Mr. Bramston went far into the interior for a walk with a little money (small Chinese coins) in their pockets to insure a good reception from the people; in this way they distributed many hundreds. Mr. Bramston has accompanied the Rev. Mr. Gutzlaff in the same manner, at Macao, without the city, among the poor at a place called “the Campo,” giving away St. Paul’s Epistles and other portions of God’s Word.

In addition to the Picture, we have Engraved the title and two commencing lines of the Bible text, printed in Chinese characters, with the pronunciation affixed.

| | | |
|--------|----------------|-------|
| Keou | 救主登山而坐後門徒就之時其開 | Mow |
| Keao | 口教訓伊等曰心貧者福矣蓋天國 | Tchu |
| Shun | | Tang |
| E | | Shan |
| Teng | | Orl |
| Yeu | | Tao |
| Sen | | Hoo |
| Fu | | Man |
| Tschay | | Te |
| Fu | | Tsle |
| Ye | | Tsche |
| Kae | | Che |
| Thian | | Ke |
| Kuo | | Kae |

1. And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:
2. And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,
3. Blessed are the poor in spirit: for their's is the kingdom of Heaven.

AUSTRALIA.

We have received the following letter from a Correspondent, describing “The Choicest Spot in the Colony:”—

St. Kilda, Melbourne, March 1, 1853.
My dear Everybody,—When I last wrote, I had not time to say much about this place; and as I am now unable to go out, in consequence of a dust-storm, which has been raging for hours, I will try to give you some idea of our colonial comforts. I am living about three miles from Melbourne, in the bush, and in sight of the bay. The situation in England would be delightful; and it is certainly pleasant in quiet weather, particularly after rain. I go down before breakfast and dip in the sea, call for the milk on my way home, sweep out the sitting-room, breakfast with appetite, and walk into Melbourne, feeling little fatigue. As I am on my feet all day, I sometimes ride out or in, or do both (2s. 6d. each way). The house, for which we pay four guineas a week, consists of three rooms and kitchen. It is unfurnished, and has not a shelf, cupboard, or other convenience. It is built of uprights and rough palings; the inside

walls papered; the ceilings of the sitting-room and bed-room canvassed, and not papered. The roof is made of rough palings; and in the daytime the sun shines through the chinks, and at night the moon; and in wet weather the rain converts the whole into a large watering-pot. I have not grown under its influences, but never was better in health, though I feel a hundred different currents of wind about my bed, and have had to turn out sometimes and erect an umbrella to sleep under.

To-day caps anything I have seen. While I am writing three or four lines, the dust accumulates on the paper so thickly, that it is not easy to read the writing (you will say, “It is not easy to read it *without* the dust!”)—the floor, table, and everything in the place has the same quantity of dust upon it as is usually seen on the roads about London after a very windy day in summer. It is blowing a hurricane of hot wind; and were it not for the too evident grittiness of the atmosphere, you might think, on going to the window, that you were in a London fog. I have breakfasted with difficulty, by spreading a newspaper over the things, pulling out my bread and butter, &c., snapping off a bit, and popping it back under cover as quickly as possible. Another newspaper over my head shoots down the sand in a shower around me, while eddies of it are flying in all directions, bringing to mind Miss Landon’s definition of dust—“mud in high glee”—and making one wish she were here to enjoy it. The dust-storm was preceded by a hot air last night, loaded with locusts, moths, queer-looking flies of all kinds, spiders, earwigs, and various other visitors; in addition to the usual companions, or intruders into what used to be called an “Englishman’s castle”—in the shape of house-flies, fleas, yellow bluebottles, bugs, lizards, musquitos, tarantula-spiders of the size of sixpenny crabs—which spiders are said to be very venomous—rats, mice, daddy-longlegs, whopping grasshoppers, and many other delicacies. Even when we have no wind, the dust is abominable, except immediately after rain; and the whole place was evidently not long since under the sea, and ought to be there still. You go out for a walk, after a good scrubbing, with your socks and limbs clean; having indulged in the expense of a clean shirt: you return with every wrinkle in your face full of black sand, and your eyes so choked that you may hear the lids grit as they open and shut. How the ladies manage to look so cleanly I don’t understand; but cleanliness is a comparative matter; and probably what we call clean shirts, &c., would in England appear much dirtier things than the linen in which *Sir John Falstaff* was smothered. I have not yet made my appearance in society here, but some of my friends have; and one of them was at a grand farewell party the other evening, given by a Mr. G—, who has amassed a large fortune, and returns to England by the *Blackwall*. My friend’s description of the company does not make me anxious to go out. He tells me that the young ladies were of a very primitive character, and conversation an unknown accomplishment amongst them; but, after several trials, he succeeded in obtaining a Colonial beauty’s opinion of Melbourne. “Do you not find this place dull?” he asked.

“No,” replied the maiden; “not dool, but doosty!” This was his only nugget for the night. Seven p.m. The hurricane has continued, and blown down several buildings in Melbourne, most of the shops having been closed. “Canvas Town” is a wreck of squalid rage. We can see one ship in the bay, which has had her foremast, mainmast, and part of her mizen, carried away since morning, and no doubt much other mischief has been done. I have just been in the sea, and found the sand and water quite warm; and the wind, though abated, is still hot. The bush was on fire last night, and it is said that, had we not had rain, the bush-fire would have been very extensive.

I have hitherto been describing St. Kilda, the “choicest spot in the colony;” and, if you wish further particulars of the town itself, I need only tell you to multiply the vermin and dust by ten, and you will not have a bad idea of Melbourne. Two hours’ rain, however, converts the whole of this dust-hole into a huge bog, extending to St. Kilda and all around Melbourne. The rascally bookmakers who describe the place in such glowing colours, ought to be compelled to sleep this rainy night in one of the miserable tents in Canvas Town, or rather to amuse themselves bailing out the water with a tea-cup. The town has some respectable buildings, and some of the streets are good; but a large part of this be-puffed-place is more like the lower end of Waterloo-road, London (or what it used to be), than any place I have seen. All new comers are stunned by the state of things; and many a time has Mrs. Chisholm been heartily wished in a place which I suppose is even more disagreeable than this. There are already many here who lack employment; and great fears are entertained with respect to the winter, when tents and make-shifts will be no longer available. Still, artisans find full employment at very high wages, as almost everybody is buying land and building. Owners of land and houses are coining money. Land which cost £1 an acre is now selling at £25 a foot, and £20-houses are realising £1000 a year. Money-making consoles an reconciles everybody to the rough, dirty mode of life, and the “gentry” of the place seem quite unconscious that they are living in dirt and semi-barbarism. A sense of perfect freedom and independence, however, makes up for many wants; and I suppose I shall gradually become as unconcerned about this brick-field kind of life as my neighbours. The reward of industry is much more certain and speedy here than in grinding, be-pauperised England; and, with all the defects of this place, a man with a head on his shoulders is a fool to remain struggling for life in a mother country which has heaped wealth on her idle children, and leaves the coarse crumbs to those who labour for her. But in coming here the poor man will find her affection still pursuing him through her agents; so far from providing even temporary shelter for those who are to create a demand for her productions, and help to enrich her, she exacts from the friendless and too often destitute adventurer, before he can throw his limbs on the earth to sleep, a rent of 5s. a week for a few feet of sand and bog whereon to pitch his tent or erect his miserable pole and rags. For what are called “Government emigrants,” some slight provision is made; but of the thousands of men, women, and children suddenly poured into this dust-hole, no more appears to be thought than of so much more dirt added to the heap; and, in fact, here, as in England, people must and do progress not by the aid, but in spite of Government.

I have not time to say more now, except that I am very well, and that I am always yours sincerely, F. B. F.

INAUGURATION OF THE NEW YORK EXHIBITION.

(From our own Correspondent.)

NEW YORK, July 14, 1853.

At last the New York Exhibition is opened. “Better late than never” says the old adage; in this case, however, later would have been better. Not half the articles are in their places, and the greater part of that half not even in the Building; it will be full six weeks before the Exhibition assumes that appearance which it should have presented on the morning of the opening. Many are the excuses and explanations to account for the delay, and loud and deep are the complaints of exhibitors. It still remains to be proved whether the undertaking will be successful or not. The enthusiasm of to-day seemed more on behalf of the President than the Exhibition; and when the speechifying and the ceremonies were over, and groups of inquiring minds promenaded around the Building, now stumbling over a packing-case, or having to return to disengage some portion of dress detained by unfinished carpentry, and in their walk, occasionally discovering some work of art strangely uplifting its head in a quarter where least expected—they seemed disappointed, and disposed to consider that great blame was due somewhere.

Early in the morning trumpets were sounding, calling out the various troops of militia and volunteers, and bands were playing and escorting their particular regiment to the appointed rendezvous. At the corner of every street soldiers—both horse and foot—were seen hastening to join their comrades; flags were run up to the top of the Liberty-poles, as well as to the flagstaff which surmounts almost every hotel; the “Stars and Stripes” were hung out of windows (in some cases with an advertisement stuck on in some form or other, for Jonathan has always an eye to business); the sashes were thrown up, and ladies endeavoured to find some amusement in anything that might occur for two or three hours, to while away the time till the President approached.

About nine o’clock the regiments had formed, and commenced marching to the Battery; each regiment perfectly independent, and, having its own band, proceeded along the Broadway as soon as ready. First, a cavalry regiment, the band playing some lively air; then a foot regiment, and so on.

While all these preparations were going on in New York, the Committee of Reception, having chartered the steamer *Josephine*, proceeded, with some favoured guests and military and naval officers, to the Jersey shore to receive the President from the authorities of Jersey city, and convey him to New York. The boat was decorated with the United States flag, and flags of the separate states, and presented a very gay and lively look.

The President embarked at the Cunard Steam-ship Company’s dock, a portion of which was set apart for the purpose. In the same dock lay the steam-ship *Arabia*, the British and American flags flying from her masts. The officers of the *Arabia* were not behind in their attentions to the President, but vied with brother Jonathan to do him honour. The sailors of the *Arabia*, under the command of Mr. Hockley, her chief officer, ran out from the shore to the *Josephine* a long gangway, which was covered with carpeting, and a hand-rail on each side decorated in good taste with signal flags. This compliment to the President was highly appreciated, and elicited favourable remarks on all sides. The cannon boomed in the distance; music heard indistinctly, intermingled with shouts, announced the approach of the President; the firing became more rapid, the bands more distinct, until, at five minutes past nine, the President arrived on the dock, and immediately embarked. The *Arabia* fired a salute of 21 guns, and paraded all hands on deck; cannon from all the wharves and docks within sight or hearing, kept up a continued fire, which, joined to the cheering and shouting, was perfectly deafening.

The *Josephine* steered down the bay, to enable the President to have a good view of the magnificent harbour of New York, as well as to give the vessels in the river an opportunity of saluting and cheering him. As the President approached Castle-garden, the scene was animated and beautiful beyond description. Let the reader imagine the effect produced by forests of shipping decorated with flags, the rigging alive with human beings, and the decks of those vessels sufficiently near to catch a glimpse of the President, crowded with the democracy of the Empire City. The vessel neared the shore; and the President, standing in the fore-part of the vessel, exposed his head to the sun by continually bowing to the "sovereign people." The bands played "Hail, Columbia," "Yankee Doodle," "The Star-Spangled Banner," &c.; and amidst firing, cheering, and music, the President of the United States was welcomed to New York by the Mayor, Corporation, and city authorities. In Castle-garden the President received the congratulations of the Mayor, and responded in a speech of a thoroughly national tone and feeling, which elicited the uproarious applause of all present. He then reviewed the troops drawn up on the Battery, after which the procession formed and proceeded along Broadway towards the Crystal Palace.

The President was mounted on a fine black charger, which, though very old, is a noble animal. This horse carried General Pierce through the Mexican war, and is, as may be supposed, a great favourite. The fact of the President being on horseback in a [great measure disappointed the people on the line of procession. It was expected, and, indeed, announced that he would be in a barouche drawn by six greys; but he preferred proceeding on horseback, and did so at the head of the procession, in many cases passing by before any person in his immediate neighbourhood was aware of his approach. All along the route flags and streamers were flying from every available point. The windows were filled with well-dressed ladies, who testified their delight by waving their handkerchiefs. The Astor House Hotel was very tastefully decorated with national flags. Immediately after the President had passed this point, the rain came down in torrents, and soon drenched the procession to the skin. The effect on the people in the streets was perfectly magical: they did not go away, they vanished; where they went, and how they went, remains a mystery. Some gentlemen offered the President an umbrella, but he refused, saying:—"He should not melt, he could stand the rain as well as any of them!" The most curious part of the incident was, that half a mile further on there had been no rain at all; and, on the President's arrival in the neighbourhood of the Crystal Palace, the people were perfectly astonished to see him and all in the procession wet through.

The President having arrived at the Exhibition, it was thought advisable that he should take some refreshment; and, in true republican style, he and the gentlemen accompanying him entered a saloon opposite the Crystal Palace. During his stay in the saloon some thoughtful person procured him a change of linen, and before entering on his duties in the Exhibition he availed himself of the kindness. While the proceedings outside were so interesting, it must not be imagined that nothing of interest was going on in the interior. Platforms were erected, on which seats were placed to accommodate those who, either by position or favour, were fortunate enough to secure an invitation. The whole of the interior management, however, was very bad, and I can say, with very great truth, they manage these things better in England. The tickets not being numbered, and no account taken of the quantity issued, they who arrived first obtained the best seats; and, thus, on a front seat might be seen a shopkeeper of "Broadway," and three or four seats behind a Minister of State. On the floor, in front of the platform, seats were placed in any way it suited the occupiers to fix them; and by the time the President and his suite arrived, the way was so blocked up, that it was with difficulty they could reach the platform. By dint of great exertion, however, a way was cleared sufficient for the President to pass through; a chair, of course awaited him; but not so



STATUE OF WASHINGTON, BY BARON MAROCHETTI, IN THE NEW YORK CRYSTAL PALACE.

fortunate were the naval officers who accompanied him. All the seats being filled, these gentlemen, the only persons on the platform in uniform, were compelled to sit on the floor.

The doors of the Exhibition were opened at ten o'clock, and the proceedings announced to commence at one; but, owing to unavoidable delay, in consequence of the rain, the President did not arrive till two o'clock. While waiting for the President, the public had an opportunity of observing the decorations. The dome was very much admired as to form, but the style of decoration is anything but pleasing; all is hard and harsh; positive colours and violent contrasts meet the eye on all sides, and bespeak a want of education in this department of art. A few years ago, however, this was not much better understood in England, as Mr. Owen Jones can testify. Around the galleries the same style of decoration is used as at the London Exhibition—the scarlet cloth behind the railing, the names of the departments in white letters on a crimson ground, and so on. The general effect is much the same as the Great Exhibition on a small scale—something like looking at the Great Exhibition through the

wrong end of an opera-glass. The chief objects in this Exhibition—or, rather, the more prominent objects, are—the statue of Washington, by Baron Marochetti; "Christ and the Apostles," Thorwaldsen's great work; and the London favourite, Kiss's "Amazon." Many other works of great beauty I have had a peep at as they stand half-unpacked, and others will, no doubt, be added to the list. General Scott, with his arm in a sling, showing he had not recovered from his fall in the street, was a prominent object on the platform: he rose to pay his respects to Lady Ellesmere, and as he walked back to his seat was loudly cheered.

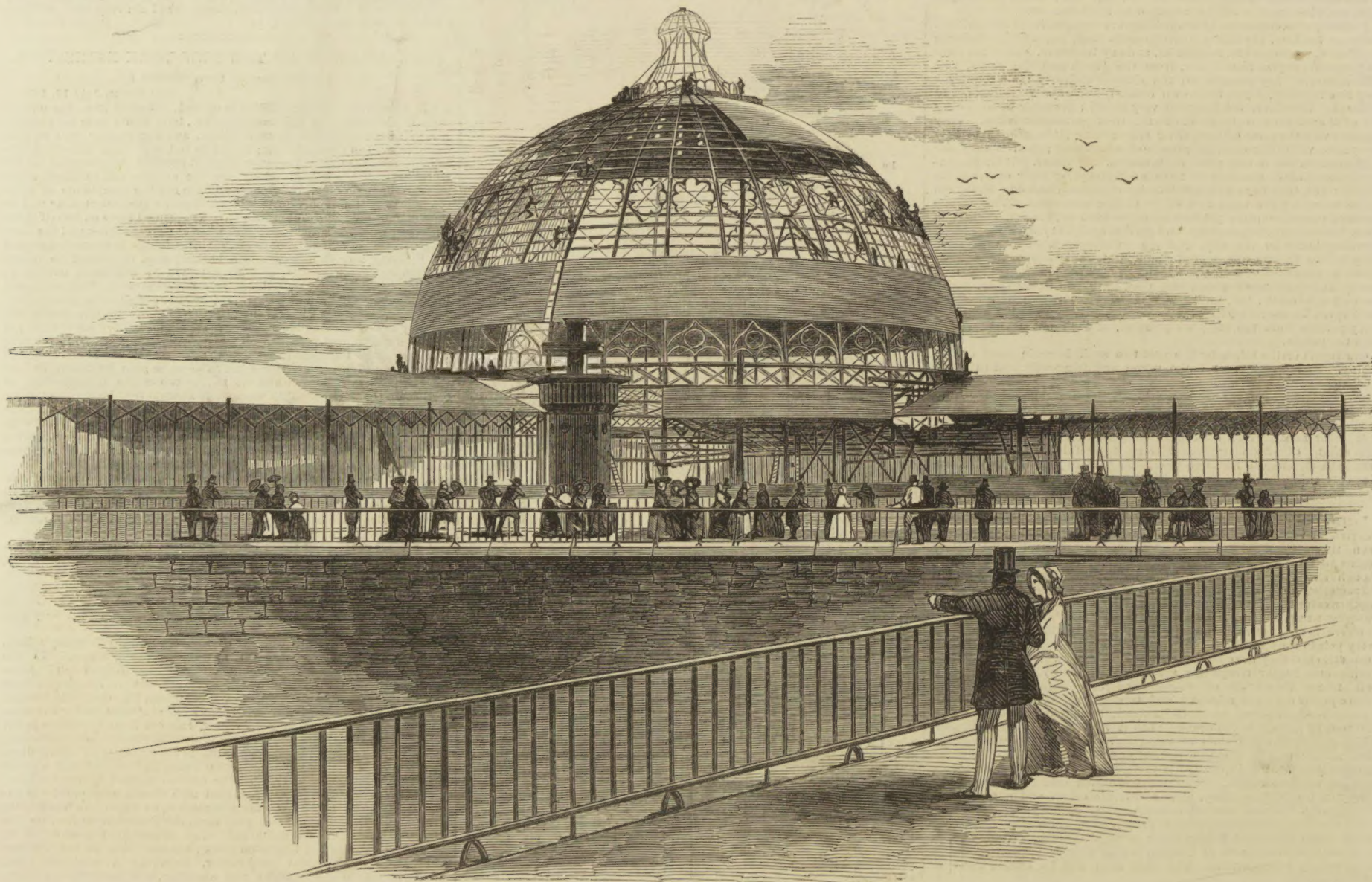
It was now two o'clock, and all eyes were directed towards the principal entrance. The President approached silently and quietly, with his suite; when, on arriving within a few feet of the platform, he was recognised, and heartily cheered, but not with such a spontaneous burst as our Queen elicits on such occasions. On his arrival on the platform, the band which commenced playing immediately on his being recognised, continued playing to enable the President to rest a little. He seemed thoroughly fatigued, and looked very unwell; occasionally he pressed his hand on his forehead, as if in great pain. He was dressed in deep mourning for his only son, whom he lost some time ago by a railway accident. A prayer was then offered by Bishop Wainwright, the President holding his hat in his hand, and bending forward towards the Bishop in a most devout manner. After the prayer a hymn was sung by the New York Harmonic Society, to the air of the Old Hundredth Psalm. The Hon. Theodore Sedgwick, the president of the Crystal Palace Association, then addressed to the President in an eloquent speech. The President replied; and the conclusion was the signal for general cheering. Cheers were also called for, in favour of various persons whose names I could not catch, and were responded to with more or less enthusiasm.

A general rush then took place on to the platform, to shake hands with the President, and his friends had great difficulty in preventing him from being seriously hurt. However, with great exertion, he was conducted off the platform, highly delighted, I have no doubt, to escape so easily. In the scuffle many mounted the reporters' table, which was placed in front of the platform. The table, with at least forty people on it, at last gave way, and came down with a crash, causing a temporary alarm. Fortunately, no one was hurt; and, the President having retired, the people gradually dispersed—some to different parts of the Building, and the greater part making their way either home or to some refreshment-room, having been in the Building from ten to four o'clock. At no time were there more than 5000 persons in the Exhibition; although there were, probably, 10,000 outside, to see the President. On his return, the President entered the barouche drawn by six greys, and was driven off at a rapid pace to the Astor House, escorted by a company of Dragoons. Thus ended the inauguration of the New York Crystal Palace.

[In our next Number we shall engrave the interior of the Crystal Palace during the opening ceremony; which want of space compels us to omit this week.]

STATUE OF WASHINGTON. BY BARON MAROCHETTI.

This fine Statue of Washington occupies the post of honour under the centre of the dome of the Crystal Palace, and stands on a temporary wooden pedestal, crowned with crimson cloth. It fully sustains the still growing reputation of the sculptor. The grandeur of the general effect is remarkable. The easy manner in which Washington sits the horse, and the calm and yet powerful expression in the features of the great man, all tend to stamp it as a triumph of art. No trappings, tassels, or useless ornaments deck the horse or rider: the plain sword hangs negligently by his side; and with the exception of the pistol-holsters, and the epaulettes on the shoulders of Washington, there is nothing to distinguish him from a private gentleman of the time of George III.



THE NEW YORK CRYSTAL PALACE.—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.



THE EAST SUFFOLK ARTILLERY ENCAMPMENT, AT LANDGUARD FORT.

THE EAST SUFFOLK ARTILLERY.

THE training of this fine Militia Regiment was closed on the 26th ult., by the inspection of the corps, by Colonel Gordon Higgins, R.A. The history of the regiment is remarkable, as showing the result of careful training, with good materials, and competent instruction.

— This regiment was on the Light Infantry establishment at the training of 1852, which lasted three weeks, during which time the men had not arms placed in their hands. This year they assembled on the 1st of July, as an Artillery corps, composed of 184 of all ranks, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Shafte Adair. With the exception of the Adjutant, Captain Love, not one of these officers had been in the regular service, and not above ten or twelve of the non-commissioned officers and privates. They reckoned in their ranks two gunners of the Royal Artillery. The officers and non-commissioned officers of the permanent staff generally passed the months of May and June in acquiring Artillery drill at Woolwich or other stations.

The spot selected consists of a spacious sweep of greensward to the north-west of Landguard Fort, Ipswich: from the traces still remaining it formed the site of an encampment fifty years ago. Surrounded by a belt of marsh land, the site is approached from the shore opposite the harbour by a roadway, and by a bridge constructed with planks. Having crossed this, the spectator was at once introduced to the Camp. On the right, was pitched the tent of the Colonel-Commandant, Shafte Adair; on the left, the tent of Captain Love, the Adjutant. The next row of tents was appropriated to Major Pytches and the other officers;

in the rear another row afforded accommodation for their servants. Next was the encampment of the bulk of the regiment, which consisted of two long rows of tents, running parallel with each other, and consisting of the right and left wings. In the rear, on the west, stood the hospital and surgery tents; on the south, was the tent appropriated to the guard; whilst midway was a large oblong building, in which the business of the canteen was conducted. In the immediate vicinity, the camp kettles upon a series of fires blazing in a long trench, served as the kitchen. The Camp on the southern edge was lined by a double row of sentinels; two also being posted upon the bridge, already described; and on their immediate right stood four brass six-poudders. The scene was animated and picturesque—with the long rows of white tents tipped with red dotting the green sward at regular intervals—the Union Jack floating from various points, the piles of carbines at the entrance of the several tents, the old fort in the immediate foreground bristling with cannon, the rural scenery in the rear stretching as far as the eye can range, and the beautiful ocean reflecting from its surface the bright blue sky of summer. With these auxiliaries the Camp at Landguard Fort was even more picturesque than that at Chobham.

On the 1st of July the regiment encamped, and, under their guns, prepared to lead a soldier's life under canvas. They had never inhabited tents, nor cooked their own food at the camp fire. Their previous training in Ipswich had scarcely been long enough to familiarise them with their officers or comrades; and for more than one-half of the period of training the peninsula on which their camp was situated, between the estuary on which Harwich stands and the German Ocean, was scourged with hurricanes and deluged with rain. The soil, however,

was porous and dry, and the commanding officer had provided the tents with cocoa-nut fibre mats, in place of straw.

Of the twenty-five days previous to that of inspection, two were occupied in distributing arms and clothing: two were lost through the inclemency of the weather; and four Sundays intervened. These eight entire days were to be deducted from the total, leaving but seventeen days in which to acquire a knowledge of manual and platoon exercise, of company drill, and of manœuvring in battalion, as well as of the management of heavy ordnance.

On the day of inspection the manœuvres commenced with the general salute, followed by marching past. Line was then re-formed for manual and platoon exercise. On the intelligence that the enemy had landed, the line was formed into close column, and the camp was quitted for the field.

The column next deployed into line and advanced, covered by the skirmishers and field-guns on each flank. Finding the enemy in force, the line retired by the right of division, forming a square on the leading division, and receiving the gunners of the abandoned field-guns, bringing with them the side-arms, linchpins, &c., of the spiked guns. The column of march being re-formed, took ground to the left, and again advanced in column, forming square; line was re-formed, covered by skirmishers and the field-guns as before, ending with a charge, driving the rear-guard of the enemy into their boats, under a heavy fire of guns and musketry.

The inspecting officer declared himself highly gratified and surprised at the proficiency and steadiness of the regiment.

In the afternoon, the regiment assembled on Parade in Landguard Fort,



THE CAMP AT CHOBHAM, BY MOONLIGHT.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

and proceeded to man the Eleven Gun, or Beaulieu Battery, with two detachments selected from each company. These were put through their drill by the instructors, and afterwards commanded by the Lieut. Colonel, and directed by the regimental officers and non-commissioned officers of this branch of training. The inspecting officer expressed his approbation, observing that ammunition for real practice alone was wanting to secure the efficiency of the regiment.

This plain statement shows what has been effected by a single regiment, under competent instruction. True it is that this corps has shown itself to be of the soldierly breeding, patience, and docility which is perfectly consistent with civil excellence; but it is rather our desire to show by example what an excellent material of defence exists in this country, properly developed. Perhaps the most remarkable feature of the present well-determined system of military preparation is this, that no thought of aggressive war is thereby promoted. Our experience in all ranks has shown us that it is only a feeling of security which the nation seeks to further by the great preparations that have been made. No one talks of conquest, being resolute to prevent invasion; and of all the means best adapted to our position, in a military sense, the formation of artillery regiments, in our judgment, holds the first place. There are at present twelve corps of militia artillery, of the strength of all ranks of 4500 men. These, lying on the sea board, form an efficient barrier to an invading enemy, and a needful protection to the river-highways of our commerce. And when it is remembered that, as in the case of the Suffolk Artillery Regiment, the advantages of an armed force are secured with no large outlay to the State, or disturbance to the labour-market of the district, if a judicious selection of the periods for training be adopted, we may express a hope that the system of the benefits, of which the Suffolk Artillery Regiment is so striking an instance, may be prudently and effectually developed in its full efficiency.

THE CAMP AT CHOBHAM.—SATURDAY.

This day, Catlin's Valley was once more the scene of one of those sham fights which are rapidly winning for it quite a reputation in its way. If the Field of the Cloth of Gold is still remembered—and poets by mere description can give celebrity to spots where imaginary battles have been fought—surely the Chobham campaign will make this valley famous. The division turned out at eleven o'clock, and concentrated in the hollow in front of the camp of the 1st and 2nd Brigades. Here they remained for some time, drawn up in masses of battalions—Sir Richard England's brigade in front; behind it that of Lockyer; the Guards in the rear, on the left; and the cavalry and Horse Artillery also behind, on the right. The enemy had taken up a position on the Common in a north-westerly direction, its right extending towards the heights which close in the valley in that direction, while its left rested upon an enclosed space which here juts into the heath. Here commenced a series of splendid manoeuvres which lasted some hours; and, being finished, each regiment gallantly took its way back to Camp, with its band playing, and shortly afterwards, the crowds of spectators who had assembled to witness the operations were returning to town again, highly gratified by all they had seen.

MONDAY.

This was a splendid day, and her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent honoured the Camp with her presence. The troops paraded at ten o'clock; and, after an inspection, marched down into the low grounds in front of the Camp. Here they were joined by Lord Seaton and the generals commanding brigades, from all of whom they underwent another scrutiny, and then the march was re-commenced, across Catlin's Valley, to the northern extremity of the Common, near Chobham Ridges. Here the sham battle took place; and the enemy being driven through the wood, to an enclosed field, the troops returned over the hills towards the artillery encampments, where the carriage of her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent was stationed, surrounded by those of many persons of distinction. The forces, led by the cavalry, then filed past the carriage of her Royal Highness, each regiment "carrying arms," and saluting with their colours, their illustrious visitor to the Camp. The coup d'œil during the ceremony of filing past was one of rare beauty. The brightness of the day appeared to impart additional splendour to the aspect of the forces.

TUESDAY.

The field-day on Tuesday was one of the most striking and animated, and the best or most scientific, which the present troops have been engaged in. There was a novelty, too, about the movements, which appeared to interest the troops as much as the thousands of spectators who witnessed them.

WEDNESDAY.

In consequence of information of the intended visit of her Majesty on Thursday, the troops did not turn out this day, as was expected. Companies from each infantry regiment were, however, busily employed during the day in throwing up the redoubts which are to be defended and finally blown up in the presence of her Majesty. The whole of the bands assembled at eleven o'clock on the Magnet-hill, forming one monster military band of 280 performers, and played a selection of overtures and favourite airs in splendid style. Early in the next week it is expected that a grand military concert will be given on the occasion of the visit of a number of foreign officers. The day was remarkably fine, and the large number of visitors present, the principal portion of whom were ladies, embraced the opportunity of promenading in Regent-street, the fashionable and picturesque lounge which forms the main thoroughfare of the Guards' encampment.

It is stated that the Encampment will be broken up finally on the 25th instant; and it is also rumoured that on the 16th Lord Seaton will resign the command of the troops to the Duke of Cambridge.

As an instance of the good feeling which subsists among the different cavalry regiments, we may state that an evening or two since the whole of the non-commissioned officers dined together in the large sutlers' tent in the rear; and leave having been kindly given by the Duke of Cambridge, the festivities of the evening were continued until a late hour.

The illustration upon the preceding page is an effective picture of the Camp by moonlight.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO IRELAND.—It is generally stated that the Royal visit to the Dublin Exhibition will take place about the 22nd of the present month. It may be presumed that her Majesty will proceed by sea to Scotland, visiting the Giant's Causeway en route, and that the landing-point in Scotland will be Ardrrossan. Balmoral, the Queen's Highland residence, being situated in the eastern Highlands.

ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC JUNCTION COMPANY.—Mr. Haldon, of the Grand Surveying Expedition, has received a despatch from Bogota, dated 22nd June, 1853, declaring the cordial acceptance, by the Executive, of the guarantee of certain capitalists of London, for the sum of £24,000, as caution-money, in terms of the concession for the intended Ship Canal through the province of Choco del Norte, by way of the Rio Abasco, to Cupica Bay. The same despatch announces that the President of New Granada, deeply anxious to encourage the construction of the Atlantic-Pacific Canal through that part of New Granada which borders on the Pacific, had ordered it to be officially announced, in answer to the petition of Senator Gonzalez, that he had granted a prorogation, until the month of March, 1854, for the business of accomplishing the proper surveys of the line of route, and for the formation of a public company in England.

THE SEARCH FOR FRANKLIN.—The families and friends of the officers and crew of Lady Franklin's screw-steamer *Isabel*, will be glad to learn that most favourable accounts have been received of all on board, in a letter from Mr. Kennedy, commanding the expedition, dated May 12. All were in the best health and highest spirits, eager to be at their work in Behring's Straits, and sanguine of making a good passage. Mr. Kennedy writes in high terms of his officers and men, and of the vessel, which crossed the line in little more than a month from the date of leaving Portsmouth, and under sail alone. The saving of fuel thus effected will enable Mr. Kennedy, he says, to prosecute his voyage without any other detention than visiting either the Sandwich Islands, or Vancouver's Island; he would be guided by circumstances in choosing between these two places.

WRECK OF THE "LAURISTON" SCREW-STEAMER, AND LOSS OF LIFE.—Intelligence has been received of the total loss of the *Lauriston* screw-steamer, Captain Baylis, and between thirty and forty of her crew. She left Shanghai towards the latter end of April for Hong-Kong. On the evening of the 1st of May she was off that part of the coast known as Turnabout Island. At ten o'clock the steamer struck, and defied all efforts to get her off the reef. More than thirty of the crew, by attempting to reach the shore, perished. Notwithstanding the fearful sea, all the passengers and some of the crew contrived to reach the beach by means of the boats before midnight. The remainder who were then left on board took to the bowrrier to await the return of the boats. After several hours severe suffering, the boats succeeded in making their way to the wreck, and rescued most of those clinging to the bow. Some were left behind—Captain Baylis, the chief and second engineer, and two lascars—but they were subsequently rescued. She is reported to have been insured for a large amount.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, Aug. 7.—11th Sunday after Trinity. Queen Caroline died, 1821. MONDAY, 8.—George Canning died, 1827. Marshal Ney shot, 1815. TUESDAY, 9.—Louis Philippe acceded to the French Throne, 1830. WEDNESDAY, 10.—St. Lawrence. Greenwich Observatory founded, 1675. THURSDAY, 11.—Dog Days end. Half Quarter Day. FRIDAY, 12.—Lord Castlereagh died, 1822. Grouse shooting begins. SATURDAY, 13.—New Poor-law passed, 1834.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 13.

| Sunday. | Monday. | Tuesday. | Wednesday. | Thursday. | Friday. | Saturday. |
|---------|---------|----------|------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| h m | h m | h m | h m | h m | h m | h m |
| 3 35 | 4 10 | 4 30 | 4 50 | 5 5 | 5 30 | 6 10 |
| 6 10 | 6 30 | 6 50 | 7 10 | 7 30 | 7 50 | 8 20 |

VOLUME XXII. of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, now ready, price 21s., elegantly bound in cloth; or, stitched in an elegant wrapper, price 16s.—The whole of the Volumes from the commencement may be had in complete sets, bound and gilt, price £20 15s. 0d.; or, stitched, in paper covers, £15 5s. 0d., or any single Volume can be had separate. Single Copies of any of the back Numbers are charged 1s. each one month after the date of publication. Portfolios for preserving the Numbers (which may thus be read without fear of injury before binding), 4s. Reading Cases, 2s. 6d. Covers for Binding the Volumes, 2s. 6d.—Office, 198, Strand.

PERMANENT ENLARGEMENT OF THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

ON SATURDAY NEXT, AUGUST 13th, 1853, will commence the PERMANENT ENLARGEMENT of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, by the addition of ANOTHER SHEET of EIGHT PAGES. The ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS will henceforth consist of SEVENTY-TWO COLUMNS of LITERATURE. Price SIXPENCE.

* By the above addition of eight pages space will be ensured for more fully recording the progress of Literature, Popular Science, and the Fine Arts, than has hitherto been accomplished within the original limits of the Journal. By this extension, also, the great events of the day will be more prominently detailed; and the Journal will altogether be rendered complete as an Illustrated Picture of the age we live in.

ADVERTISERS are informed that the SCALE OF PRICES IS REDUCED; and that sufficient space is reserved to secure the insertion of all Advertisements that may be sent. No Advertisements can be received after seven o'clock on Thursday Evenings.

Office, 198, Strand: August 4, 1853.

TURKEY AND RUSSIA.—The usual Letters and Sketches from our Correspondents and Artists en route for Moldavia, Wallachia and Constantinople, have not reached us this week.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 1853.

The real motives of the Russian aggression against Turkey are at length obvious, even to the unwilling minds of British and French statesmen. The truth can be no longer concealed. The Emperor Nicholas is determined upon the dismemberment of the Turkish Empire: nothing less will satisfy him: to that end all his measures for many months past have been directed. Public opinion—derived from the unerring instinct of imminent danger, more than from any reasoning upon the facts of the case—long ago came to the conclusion that the alleged cause of dispute was nothing but a false pretence; and that no concession which the Sultan could at any time have made, would have produced the slightest alteration in the ulterior projects of the Czar. If there were room for doubt at any previous period of the negotiations—even at that period when the Czar took the law into his own hands, and marched his armies into the territories of his neighbour—the most recent intelligence received from the Danubian Provinces must have dissipated it. Acting under the avowed compulsion of the Czar, the Hospodar of Moldavia has declared himself independent of the Sultan. The same conduct has been dictated, by the same irresistible authority, to the Hospodar of Wallachia; and the dismemberment of the Turkish Empire is thus a *fait accompli*. We are glad to see that the spirit of Great Britain, if not of the other anti-Russian allies, has been effectually aroused by the event; and that this country has assumed an attitude towards Russia which will necessarily bring the question to a speedy and a final issue. The Government of France, and, we believe, that of Austria, have also done at the last moment what ought to have been done many weeks ago. France has notified to the Czar, that the time for compromise has gone by. All Europe has, in fact, determined that the Turkish Empire shall be maintained in spite of the aggression, which, active or passive, is driving it into anarchy and disintegration.

So insolent has been the conduct of the Russian Sovereign in the unhappy dispute which he has fastened, for a malicious purpose, upon Turkey, that the most peaceable nations of Europe have been reluctantly compelled to admit the necessity of a combined action against his pretensions, if not against himself. There is not a state in Europe at the present moment which has not the strongest reasons for remaining at peace; and we may safely say of the people of Europe, as distinguished from their Governments, that they are even more averse from war than their rulers can be. Every possible interest that they have is in favour of peace. They desire leisure to trade, to manufacture, and to thrive; to gain, to consolidate, or to extend their liberties; and to promote their social welfare and enlightenment in an age unparalleled for the great advances which it has made in every branch of human enterprise and energy. But, highly as they severally appreciate the blessings of peace, there is not one first-rate power or leading people throughout the entire length and breadth of Europe which would not, at any inconvenience, defend the Turkish Empire against the wicked projects of the Czar. They all feel—and their instincts were aroused long before the statesmen and diplomatists of Europe awakened to a full consciousness of the subject—that the safest, soundest, and best policy is to resist the beginnings of evil—and that a war with Russia at the present time, deplorable as it might prove, would be much less deplorable than an uncertain peace, purchased by unworthy concessions. To reduce Russia into submission to the general law of Europe, and of honesty, may be a hard task in 1853; but, if Russia be allowed to have her own way—to hold Moldavia and Wallachia for a few weeks or months—to weaken the Turkish empire without crossing the Danube, and

simply by the insupportable weight of her presence on a soil that does not belong to her—the task which would be reserved for Great Britain and France in 1854 or 1855 would be infinitely harder. At the present moment the whole reason and sentiment of Europe are against the Emperor Nicholas. He has not a friend among the nations; and although he has evidently calculated upon their divisions and jealousies—or upon the solid and substantial reasons that render war as distasteful as it is inconvenient to them—he will yet find that his calculations are based in error; and that, if nothing else be powerful enough to unite them, a common sense of a mutual danger will prove amply sufficient. When there is a fire in the prairies, the wolf, the tiger, the horse, and the man cease their former animosities. Their common dread of a too powerful evil forbids them to hate each other in the presence of danger. When the Czar menaces a universal conflagration in the civilised world, nations that never acted together at a former period, form a Holy League against him in defence of the right. The Czar has misunderstood his position and his power. His haughty refusal—after he had incited the Hospodars of Moldavia and Wallachia to proclaim their independence—to treat with Great Britain and France upon the subject; and his determination to listen to no proposals that did not reach him through the medium of Austria—a state which he, and he alone, had rescued from the destruction that impended over it in 1848 and 1849—are of themselves proofs how little he understands the real sentiments of the Western nations. He will in due time, it is to be hoped, discover his fatal error. He is the common enemy of every state in Europe. He has already inflicted more mischief upon them than has been inflicted by any individual since the days of the French Consulate and Empire. The only course left for this and other countries is to be prepared for him; and we gather from the speech of Lord Clarendon, in answer to the Marquis of Clanricarde, that, as far as this nation is concerned, there is no reason to dread any further indecision or vacillation. The nation knows, at last, the true character of the disturber, and is prepared to make great present sacrifice, if need be, to prevent still heavier sacrifices at a future period.

THE COURT.

The Queen and Prince Albert, with their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, the Princess Helena, and the Princess Louise, arrived at Buckingham Palace on Tuesday afternoon, from the Isle of Wight. Her Majesty and her Royal Highness, attended by the Marchioness of Ely, the Hon. Mary Seymour, Colonel the Hon. C. B. Phipps, Colonel Bouvier, Lieutenant-Colonel F. H. Seymour, and the Master of the Household, left Osborne shortly before ten, in the Royal yacht *Fairy*, and crossed to Gosport, where a special train was in readiness to convey the Royal party to town. On arriving at the Vauxhall station of the South-Western Railway, the Queen and Prince, with the youthful Princes and Princesses, and the Royal suite, entered four of the Queen's carriages, and, escorted by a detachment of the 17th Lancers, arrived at Buckingham Palace at twenty-five minutes to two o'clock. In the evening her Majesty and her Royal Highness, attended by the Hon. Matilda Paget, the Hon. Mary Seymour, the Marquis of Ormonde, Colonel Bouvier, and Captain the Hon. Dudley de Ros, honoured the Royal Italian Opera with their presence.

On Wednesday, the Queen held a Court for the reception of his Royal Highness the Crown Prince and her Imperial Highness the Crown Princess of Wurtemberg. The Crown Prince and Princess arrived at the Palace soon after six o'clock, attended by Baron Brunnow, the Russian Minister, the Countess Sturmfeder (Dame d'Honneur to her Imperial Highness), Count Zeppelin, and Colonel de Berlichingen, and were received, on alighting from their carriages, by the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting. His Royal and her Imperial Highness were introduced to the presence of the Queen by the Earl of Clarendon, K.G., Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. In the afternoon, her Majesty attended by the Hon. Mary Seymour, took a drive in an open landau and four. His Royal Highness Prince Albert rode out on horseback, attended by Captain the Hon. Dudley de Ros. In the evening the Queen had a dinner party to celebrate the christening of the infant son of the Earl and Lady Constance Grosvenor. The company included her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, the Earl and Countess Granville, the Marchioness of Westminster, Lady Augusta Bruce, the Baroness de Speth, the Earl and Lady Constance Grosvenor, the Rev. Lord Wriothley Russell, the Right Hon. W. E. and Mrs. Gladstone, and Sir George Couper.

On Thursday the Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Crown Prince of Wurtemberg, went to Chobham, and was present at a review of the troops forming the Encampment. In the evening the Queen had a dinner party: the company at which included her Imperial Highness the Grand Duchess Olga of Russia, the Crown Prince of Wurtemberg, the Duchess of Kent, and a distinguished circle of the nobility.

The Countess of Gainsborough has relieved the Marchioness of Ely in her duties as Lady in Waiting to the Queen, and the Hon. Captain de Ros has succeeded Lieut.-Colonel F. H. Seymour as Equerry in Waiting to Prince Albert.

A meeting of the committee for considering the subject of the Wellington College Testimonial was held at Buckingham Palace on Wednesday, at four o'clock; and was attended by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Duke of Buccleuch, the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord John Russell, Viscount Hardinge, Lord Raglan, and the Hon. W. P. Talbot. The Earl of Derby was unavoidably prevented from being present by a severe attack of the gout.

CHRISTENING OF THE INFANT SON OF THE EARL OF GROSVENOR.—Her Majesty was pleased to stand sponsor to the infant son of the Earl and Lady Constance Grosvenor, on Wednesday morning, in the private chapel in Buckingham Palace. There were present, the Duchess of Sutherland, the Duke and Duchess of Argyll, the Marchioness of Westminster, the Earl and Lady Constance Grosvenor, Lady Agnes Grosvenor, and the Ladies and Gentlemen in Waiting on the Queen. The baptismal service was performed by the Rev. Lord Wriothley Russell. Her Majesty named the infant "Victor Alexander." The other sponsors were the Duke of Sutherland (represented by the Duke of Argyll) and the Marquis of Westminster (represented by Earl Grosvenor).

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Rectories:* The Rev. G. T. Kingston, to Pyworthy, Devon; Rev. E. J. Phipps to Stanfield, Suffolk; the Rev. P. Wood to Devizes; the Rev. W. Godfrey to Martin-Hussington, Worcestershire; the Rev. W. G. Jenkyn to Ingatstone, with Buttsbury annexed, Essex; the Rev. J. Taylor to Croxton Keyrial, near Grantham; the Rev. H. P. Thomas to Nash-cum-Upton, near Pembroke; the Rev. H. E. B. Folkes, M.A., to Boughton. *Vicarages:* The Rev. J. Fleming to Widdenhall, St. Mary the Virgin, near Lynn, Norfolk; the Rev. A. Braddell to St. Martin-at-Palace, Norwich. *Incumbencies:* The Rev. W. Morton to Penkhill, near Stoke-upon-Trent; the Rev. F. E. Arden, B.A., to West Beckham, near Holt; the Rev. J. E. A. Fenwick to Christchurch, Needwood, Staffordshire; the Rev. J. W. Lester, to Ashton Hayes, near Chester; and the Rev. P. Jones to Hindley, in the same county.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—On Wednesday afternoon the distribution of prizes to the pupils of the junior school took place in the theatre of the institution, Gower-street, New-road. Mr. A. H. Layard, D.C.L., M.P., presided on the occasion, supported by many well-known friends of the College.

GAS FROM WATER.—A company has been formed in London, under the direction of Lord Howard de Walden (the English Minister in Brussels) and Sir J. W. Waller, called "The Electric Gas Company," for the purpose of making gas by the decomposition of water by electricity. Patents have been taken out in France and other Continental countries.

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES FOR 1853-54.—These estimates are comprised under the following votes:—New Houses of Parliament (supplemental), £70,000; Windsor Castle (supplemental), £4080; Buckingham Palace (supplemental), £20,000; Battersea-park, £32,641; Chelsea-bridge, £5500; Chelsea embankment, &c., £35,000; Ardglass Harbour, £20,000; Archer's perforating machine, £1000; Sir W. Snow Harris (compensation), £5000; electric telegraph (continual), £30,000; Royal Dublin Society (museum), £2500; total, £228,641.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, AUGUST 4.

| Month and Day. | Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M. | Thermometer. Highest Reading. | Thermometer. Lowest Reading. | Mean Temperature of the Day. | Departure of Temperature from Average. | Degree of Humidity. | Direction of Wind. | Rain in Inches. |
|----------------|--|-------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| July 29 | 29.886 | 69.5 | 54.9 | 59.2 | - 3.0 | 83 | S.W. | 0.24 |
| " 30 | 29.728 | 67.8 | 57.1 | 59.9 | - 2.3 | 73 | S.W. | 0.06 |
| " 31 | 29.965 | 70.0 | 49.2 | 58.1 | - 4.1 | 75 | W. | 0.00 |
| Aug. 1 | 29.903 | 77.6 | 58.6 | 65.7 | + 3.5 | 74 | S.W. | 0.02 |
| " 2 | 29.863 | 73.1 | 57.8 | 63.6 | + 1.4 | 78 | S.E. | 0.00 |
| " 3 | 29.971 | 74.3 | 55.1 | 63.5 | + 1.4 | 78 | S.E. | 0.00 |
| " 4 | 29.995 | 75.9 | 53.9 | 62.8 | + 0.7 | 70 | N. | 0.09 |

Note.—The sign — denotes below the average, and the sign + above the average. The numbers in the seventh column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The reading of the barometer during the week has been subjected to slight changes, only its mean for the week was 29.903 inches at the height of 82 feet above the level of the sea. The temperature was below its average on the first three days, and above its average on the last four days. From July 10 to July 31 the mean daily temperature of the air was below their averages, excepting on two days only, viz., the 12th and the 27th, on which days it was about their average. The mean daily defect for the period was 2.3°. The mean temperature of the week was 61.8°, being 0.8° below the average of thirty-eight years. The mean reading of the barometer for the month of July, at the level of the sea, was 29.912 inches. The mean temperature of the air was 60.4°, being 1.6° below the average of thirty-eight years. The mean temperature of the dew-point was 54.7°. The mean degree of humidity was 83, complete saturation being represented by 100. The mean daily range of temperature was 15.9°, and rain fell to the depth of 5.9 inches.

ERRATA.—For the mean reading of the barometer at the level of the sea for the months of March, April, and May we gave, read 29.975 inches, 29.888 inches, 29.933 inches, and 29.907 inches, respectively. The numbers printed at the end of each month have been those showing the mean pressure of dry air at the level of the sea.

Lewisiam, August 5, 1853.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—During the week ending July 30 the births of 1521 children were registered in the metropolitan districts: of these 769 were boys, and 752 were girls. The average number in the eight corresponding weeks of the years 1845—52 was 1344. The number of deaths registered in the week was 1004; a result which, though not unfavourable as compared with the usual mortality of the season in London, gives indication of that increase which is characteristic of the summer mortality of towns, as distinguished from that of the country. The deaths returned in the two preceding weeks were 904 and 971. The estimated number deduced from the average of the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1845—52, and corrected for increase of population, was 1175. This series of weeks embraces the high mortality from cholera in 1849, and the average is, therefore, greater than it would be if derived exclusively from years less remarkable for epidemic disease. To zymotic diseases 270 deaths are attributed (their average is 291): of these 3 are due to small-pox (its average is 17); to diarrhoea 81 (its average is 102); to cholera 9 (its average is 103); and to typhus 46 (its average is 38). To dropsy, cancer, &c., &c. (their average is 41). To tubercular diseases, 203 (their average is 183): of these, 149 are due to consumption (which is 22 in excess of its average). To diseases of the brain, &c., 128 (their average is 31). To diseases of the heart and blood-vessels, 38 (their average is 31). To diseases of the lungs and of the other organs of respiration, 79 (their average is 75). To diseases of the stomach, and of the other organs of digestion, 59 (their average is 72); and to violence, privation, and intemperance, 48 deaths are attributed (being 20 in excess of their average).

CITY OF LONDON MUNICIPAL REFORM ASSOCIATION.—Wednesday night the first public meeting of this association was held in Farringdon-hall, Snow-hill, for the purpose of nominating a general committee of management and ward committees of improvement, the appointment of officers, and the adoption of requisite measures for the effective organization of the body. The chair was taken by Mr. J. Weightman; and Mr. Acland gave the meeting a brief history of the movement for corporate reform, and complained that when the Legislature undertook to deal with the question, it had excluded the city of London from the provisions of the bill by which it had reformed the municipal bodies.—The intention for which the meeting was convened was fulfilled; and the proceedings terminated.

IMPROVEMENT OF CAMBRIDGE-COURT, MARYLEBONE.—Among the praiseworthy efforts now making for the improvement of the dwellings of the poor of the metropolis, is the raising of a fund in the district of Trinity, St. Marylebone, under the auspices of the Rev. Thomas Garnier, the Rector, for the purpose of purchasing a court well known in that neighbourhood for the immoral and disorderly habits of its inmates, and of effecting in the room of its present wretched tenements a number of well-arranged and wholesome lodging-houses for the poor. A bazaar in behalf of this benevolent object has recently been held in the Park-crescent-gardens, Portland-place, which was attended by upwards of 2000 visitors. The proceeds of the sale amounted to above £400, in addition to which many liberal subscriptions were received. One charitable individual, impressed with the great importance of the work, promised a donation of £500 provided that £1600 shall have been raised to meet it before the month of March next. The whole sum required is £2400 towards which £1400 is already subscribed.

BRITISH BENEFICENT INSTITUTION.—From the fourth annual report of this excellent charity, which has just been published, we are glad to perceive that its finances are in a highly prosperous condition, and that its prospects are most encouraging. Though only founded a few years ago, for the purpose of affording assistance to the widows and unmarried daughters of persons once in affluent circumstances, or occupying a high position in society, its operations have already exceeded the most sanguine expectations. At the present moment twenty-four annuitants are upon the funds, receiving each £30 per annum, and the increasing support which the institution is enjoying, justifies the hope of a speedy extension of its sphere of usefulness.

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—Several gentlemen resident near or in the metropolis, Fellows of the Medical Society of London, have resolved to form a Physiological Society for the promotion of that particular part of science, physiology, so intimately connected with the proper application of medical and surgical knowledge. The Physiological Society will commence its meetings in October next, in the rooms of the Medical Society of London, in George-street, Hanover-square, to which all Fellows are eligible for admission.

ROYAL MATERNITY CHARITY.—On Thursday the half-yearly meeting of the governors of this institution was held at the London Tavern; Alderman Wilson in the chair. It appeared from the report that, during the six months ending the 30th of June, the midwives of the institution had delivered 1358 poor married women at their own homes successfully, with two exceptions. The total income for the same period was £1426; and the expenditure, including £830 invested, to £1316 9s. 4d.

MIDDLESEX HOSPITAL.—On Thursday last the quarterly Court of Governors was held in the Board-room; Thomas Hunt, Esq., in the chair. The usual routine business of the charity was transacted, and it was announced that during the autumn there would be made an extension and enlargement of the cancer wards, and that the hospital would thereby be rendered capable of accommodating upwards of 300 in-patients.

RAILWAY FROM FENCHURCH-STREET TO KEW.—This route of railway communication, the distance from Fenchurch-street Terminus to Kew being 18½ miles, was opened for traffic on Monday, the newly-opened portion of the line completing the half-circle round London. After leaving the old line at Hampstead-road Station, the trains take the London and North-Western, and proceed nearly as far as Willesden, when they go off to the left, over the Great Western Railway, and through a portion of Acton. It continues its way in almost a straight direction to the loop line of the South-Western Railway, and terminates within a short distance of the waterworks near Kew-bridge.

THE CITY POLICE.—On Tuesday evening a meeting of the constables of the City Police was held at the Flying Horse Tavern, Cripplegate, for the purpose of approving certain alterations which had been made in a petition to the commissioner of the City Police. The petition, as amended, prayed for an increase of pay, on account of the dearness of lodgings within the City and the increased price of provisions. It was approved, and then signed by 300 of the men.

WESTMINSTER IMPROVEMENTS.—Very considerable progress is now being made towards the removal of those unsightly buildings contiguous to Victoria-street, by the sale of the materials of the old work-house of St. Margaret and St. John, in Dean-street, and which has recently been effected. The demolition of the buildings has rapidly proceeded, and a very extensive area, stretching from Dean-street to adjoining the brewery, has been nearly cleared, thus exposing, however, a number of dilapidated hovels, which must be shortly razed, in order to complete the improvements.

THE OYSTER SEASON.—Thursday morning, being the 4th of August, the usual ceremonial of "opening the oyster season" took place at Billingsgate-market. Precisely at six o'clock the bell was rung, and the boats opened for the sale of the fish. At that time twenty-four vessels lay alongside the market, and there were in attendance a considerable number of buyers.

MEETING OF OMNIBUS PROPRIETORS.—A meeting was held at the Cranbourne Hotel, on Monday, to consider what course should be pursued in reference to the denial of any right of appeal contained in the Metropolitan Hackney-carriage Bill. Mr. Gray took the chair. He expressed himself opposed to a strike, and stated that the proprietors had come to the conclusion to petition the House of Commons on the subject. Mr. Willing read a letter from Lord D. Stuart, pledging himself to place a motion on the notice-books of the House, with a view to the insertion of a clause giving the right of appeal to persons convicted under this act. A petition was read and adopted. The meeting then adjourned.

STRIKE OF LABOURERS IN THE LONDON DOCKS.—On Monday the labourers, to the number of 500 employed in the tobacco department of this extensive establishment refused to work unless they received sixpence a day more, or three shillings per week. About nine o'clock a consultation took place with a view of appointing a deputation to wait upon the dock officials, but nothing definite was arranged.

STRIKE OF THE MARKET-GARDEN LABOURERS.—On Monday morning the whole of the labourers, to the number of about 500, employed in the market-gardeners' grounds in Fulham, refused to work, on the ground that their wages were not sufficient to maintain them. They have been in the receipt of 14s. per week for working from five o'clock in the morning until seven o'clock in the evening, and they have demanded of their employers an increase of their wages to the extent of 2s. per week. This the masters have stoutly refused to accede to.

MONEY ORDERS.—GENERAL POST-OFFICE, July, 1853.—Minor Money Order Offices were opened at the undermentioned places on the respective dates named:—Handcross, Sussex, August 1. Harrington, Cumberland, August 1. Bonmahon, Waterford, August 6. Kilkintilloch, Lanark, August 3; and New Galloway, Kircubright, is to be on August 20. Llandilo and Langadock, having been reduced to sub-offices under Carmarthen, are now served (as respects money order advice) from that place.

SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—The Hon. F. Scott, Chairman of the South-Western Railway Company, and Mr. J. Beattie, the superintendent of the locomotive department of that company, surrendered on Monday, at the Croydon Assizes, to take their trial on a coroner's inquisition charging them with the manslaughter of Charles Cannon. Mr. Bodkin prosecuted, and the Attorney-General defended. Early in the trial, the Chief Baron stopped the trial, and a verdict of acquittal was given.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

NEW COLLEGE IN WESTMORELAND.—The new college of St. Mary, Windermere, situated near the terminus of the Kendal and Windermere Railway, is to be opened on Thursday, September 1. The following gentlemen have been appointed officers of the college:—Warden: the Rev. J. A. Addison, M.A., Incumbent of Berthwaite, near Kendal. Fellows: Mr. J. Martland, B.A., late head classical master of the Royal Grammar-school, Marlborough; Mr. F. Smith, B.A., late master at Bishop's College, Clifton; and Mr. R. Dowson, B.A., scholar of Queen's College, Cambridge. Choir-master and organist: Mr. Bliss, of St. Mark's College, London.

DISCOVERY OF A MISER'S HOARD.—The death of Mrs. Margaret Hudson, of Goole, has brought to light some curious facts. Her husband, Joseph Hudson, was for several years employed as an excavator in Hull; but some twenty years ago he was employed as a lock-keeper at Goole, at what is commonly known by the "pass note box." Both had particular pleasure in hoarding money, almost denying themselves often of the necessities of life. After the death of her husband—which occurred about three years ago—Mrs. Hudson sent for her brother, then in America, to come and live with her. He accepted her invitation, believing that provision would be made for himself and his family; but after being about a month with her, she turned them out, saying that "she could not afford to keep them;" and, being unable to work, himself and family have, to the time of his sister's death, had to sustain great privations. The day following Mrs. Hudson's death, he searched her room, hoping to find something wherewith to feed and clothe himself and his family, and the following sums of money and securities have been found:—One bag containing 500 sovereigns, and one containing 150 sovereigns, concealed in the bottom of a closet; one butter-pot containing 500 sovereigns; in the fire-grate, cheques and bills amounting to £200; and in a box, promissory notes—one for £500, one for £400, and another for £2000, lodged with the Aire and Calder Navigation Company; making a total of £4250. Also, a large quantity of linen, dresses, and other valuables.

THE POTATO CROP.—The universal esculent, the potato, we (Gloucester Journal) regret to say, is very generally affected with the mysterious disease, some of the tubers, indeed, being already rotten.—The Bristol Mercury states that the blight has again appeared in that neighbourhood. Nearly every grower of potatoes here will feel its sad effects in a greater or lesser degree.—The Carlisle Journal says that serious misgivings are felt with regard to the ensuing potato harvest. Reports vary, however, in different districts.

HOSPITAL OF ST. CROSS, WINCHESTER.—Judgment was given on Monday by the Master of the Rolls in the suit between the Attorney-General and the Earl of Guildford, Master of the Hospital of St. Cross. His Honour described the *Consuetudinarium* of 1696, on which the charity had ever since been carried on, as one of the most nefarious deeds the Court had ever seen—a most wicked and shameful perversion of benevolent intentions; and said that his judgment should this time be clear and unmistakable, lest 200 years hence a similarly nefarious deed be perpetrated. An injunction must be granted to restrain the granting of any leases or fines of the property of the charity, and an inquiry would be directed as to the leases now existing, and as to the present state of the institution and the appropriation of its funds. The Court could not go further back, in calling for accounts, than the filing of the information. From that time, however, the master would be called upon to account for all the rents received by him, and for the expenses of keeping the buildings in repairs, &c. The master would not be called upon to pay costs, but he would not, of course, receive any. The costs of the Bishop of Winchester would come out of the funds.

FORGED NOTES.—A gang of swindlers have been victimising people in divers places in Devonshire. They take respectable lodgings, send out bank notes to be changed, obtain possession of the coin, and decamp; the notes turn out to be forged. At Sidmouth, two false ten-pound notes were thus uttered.

NOTTINGHAM EXCHANGE.—On Wednesday, the building intended as a General Exchange and Commercial Association at Nottingham was formally opened by the Mayor, assisted by the corporation officers, aldermen, common-councilmen, and other gentlemen.

ACCELERATION OF THE MAILS.—An acceleration has just been made in the night mails to and from the north, by which the interval for replying to letters will be increased at Manchester and Liverpool by about half an hour, at Carlisle by two hours and a quarter, and at Edinburgh, Glasgow, Perth, and Aberdeen by about four hours.

THE EDINBURGH CABMEN.—The cabmen of that city have petitioned their masters for a rise of wages. Many of the men have only 10s. a week, and the greater number only 12s. The advance, no doubt, will improve the character of the men. The men have also petitioned for the withdrawal of cabs from the stands on Sunday, which will not inconvenience the public, as cabs so required are generally ordered privately.

VALUE OF FREE-TRADE.—The Mayor of Manchester holds certain charities, which are distributed in kind at this season of the year. The following notice has been posted in the Town-hall:—"Clarke and Marshall's Charities. By order of the Mayor. In consequence of the advance on goods, and less distress existing than heretofore, the quantity of articles for distribution will be considerably reduced." This is an important testimony to the effect of that Free-trade policy, which has supplied employers with orders and the employed with work.

TOTAL ABSTINENCE FESTIVAL IN JERSEY.—The first anniversary of the Jersey Juvenile Church of England Total Abstinence Society was held on the 25th ult., at Greencliff, St. Martin's parish, adjoining the works of the New Harbour of Refuge, in the island of Jersey. His Excellency Major-General Love and Mrs. Love, and the *déité* of the island were present. Upon the arrival of his Excellency, the children (300 in number) sung the National Anthem. They were then addressed by the Rev. A. Smith and others; after which they were regaled with tea and cakes. His Excellency appeared highly gratified by the scene.

CHARGE OF CONSPIRACY TO KILL THE EMPEROR OF FRANCE.—On Tuesday, a Frenchman named Edouard Raynaud, about thirty-five years of age, was brought before Mr. Jardine at the Bow-street Police Court, charged with having conspired, with divers others, to murder Louis Napoleon, the Emperor of France. The prisoner, a sickly-looking man, of short stature, had just arrived from Southampton, in the custody of Sergeant Sanders, to whom a warrant for his apprehension had been granted, upon the application of the solicitor to the Treasury. The proceedings before the magistrate occupied a few moments only, the prisoner being remanded till the principal witnesses can attend. It appears that the prisoner addressed two letters to Prince de Joinville; in the first of which he proposed a scheme for the destruction of the Emperor's life, and requested the Prince's co-operation and assistance. In the second letter he offered to go over to France and accomplish the murder of Louis Napoleon, unaided, if the Prince would give him £200.—On the following day, the prisoner was again placed at the bar, when the Prince de Joinville (who appeared to be very deaf) attended, and deposed to the truth of the above statement. The prisoner admitted to the police-sergeant that he had written the two letters, but regretted he had done so.—Mr. Jardine committed the prisoner to Newgate for trial, offering to take bail—himself in £100 and two sureties in £50 each.

MUSIC.

The Musical Festivals at Bradford and Gloucester, and the concert tours of artists, native and foreign, are the anticipated events after the close of the Italian Opera season. The members of the Orchestral Union have resolved to visit the provinces in the Autumn; their successful performances at the Hanover-square Rooms justifying their laudable endeavours to make amateurs in the country acquainted with the symphonies and overtures of the great masters.

Another speculator in the unfortunate Parisian Italian Opera-house has been compelled to give up the Government privilege. M. Corti's name must be added to the list of those directors who have vainly essayed to sustain in the French capital, since the Revolution of 1848, the music of the south. Unless the Emperor should grant a "subvention" sufficiently large to pay nearly all its expenses, it will be, in fact, impossible to have an Italian Opera-house in Paris.

The production of a new opera, called "Tony," by the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, the brother of Prince Albert, is looked forward to at Hanover with great curiosity. It will be given in September.

THE THEATRES.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

The season is rapidly drawing to a close. Spohr's "Jessonda" has been announced for production this evening (Saturday). Last Tuesday the presence of her Majesty and Prince Albert in the Royal box, after their recent indisposition, was witnessed with the utmost satisfaction by the subscribers and public. The first act of "Norma," and Verdi's "Rigoletto," were the entertainments for the extra night on Thursday. Donizetti's "Lucresia Borgia," and the second act of his comic opera, the "Elisir d'Amore," were in the programme. At the termination of the campaign, Grisi and Mario will make their farewell tour in the provinces, prior to their departure for America.

ST. JAMES'S—GERMAN PLAYS.

On Saturday the German company played for the last time at this theatre, signalling the occasion with the second performance of Schiller's "Wilhelm Tell." But it was on the previous evening that the crowning demonstration of the Teutonic genius had been exhibited. The same poet's great and elaborate classical tragedy "Die Braut von Messina," was then performed. To this play, known to the English public by the able translation of Adam Lodge, M.A., a lyrical tone is given by the admission of a chorus, which mingles in the action, and consists of the adherents of two unfriendly brothers, who partake their feud, and share in their reconciliations and reverses. The characters of the drama are strictly sculptures in motion; and are introduced and then combined with nice regard to art. Thus, *Isabella* first appears addressing the *Aeltesten von Messina* in a needful prologue, and the chorus follows with appropriate odes; after which the mother re-appears, descending from an elevated dais, between her two apparently-reconciled sons, who remain almost silent and motionless during a long scene, after which they reciprocate single-line speeches, until they part, when one remains on the stage discoursing with the chorus, in what is little more than a disguised soliloquy. In the second act *Beatrice*, the heroine, presents herself in a soliloquy proper, and, in a similar gradual and guarded manner, becomes involved with the other characters and the general action. The utmost care is employed to preserve the repose of art in the midst of great passions and complicated relations. All the elements of several classical tragedies are united to compose one which shall combine the interest of many. Sacrilege, incest, abduction, fratricide, are the topics out of whose discordant chaos the poet sought to evolve an harmonious *kosmos*. The result is that *Pity* and *Terror* are utterly compromised, for such equal sources of high argument serve only to neutralise each other. One crime prevents us from feeling horror at the other, each claiming it for itself; and thus precluded from morally sympathising with either the persons or the plot, either directly or by antipathy, the attention of the spectator is concentrated exclusively on the treatment. What we principally regard is the beauty of the dialogue, the eloquence of the set speeches, and the studied development of the situations. The performers evidently felt the law of the composition, and lent themselves cordially to the poet's purpose. As the action progressed, it properly became a contest who should deliver with most propriety and force the long examples of elocution with which each was intrusted. Frau Stelte, Frau Steck, Herr Devrient, and Herr Gabillon, were equally engaged in this amiable rivalry, and each manifested the same laudable ambition. Tirades of magnificent rhetoric succeeded one another, without either suffering from contrast, and the ear was regaled with the grandeur of sound, and the mind with a throng of poetic images. The last two acts were wonderful in their majesty; and the whole, as a work of art, was felt by the audience to be triumphant. As such, this tragedy was judiciously selected as the last great effort of German dramatic season.

STRAND THEATRE.—On Monday evening a new musical piece was produced here, entitled, "Home, Sweet Home; or, the Ranz des Vaches." A young soldier, risen to high rank in his profession, returns to his native and rural home, only to find in a wealthy widow the love of his early years, to whom he had resolved, before he made the discovery of her bettered circumstances, to fulfil the vow pledged in less prosperous times. The widow, *Madame Germaine*, was cleverly played by Miss Isaacs. The drama—which was interspersed with some charming music, selected from the popular compositions of Sir Henry Bishop—was deservedly successful. The burlesque of "Sambo Dampalus" continues as attractive as ever.

WINCHESTER.—This theatre will open on the 22nd inst., under the able management of Mr. Edwin Holmes, with "The Lady of Lyons," the heroine being performed by Miss Edith Heraud, who is engaged to support a series of leading parts during the first fortnight.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

Sir,—Your reporter, in speaking of my Digging Machine, at Tiptree Farm, has been led into two serious errors, which, as being injurious to my interest, I trust you will kindly correct in your next Number. He says:—

"Samuelson's Digging Machine, which, as a substitute for the plough, was but moderately successful with eight horses, as a harrow was very efficient."

The fact is that the Digger was worked with five instead of eight horses, and was never used as a harrow at all. What the amount of its success may have been as a substitute for the plough it would be presumptuous for me to say; but I may be allowed to add that Mr. Mechi has since purchased the Machine in question, and is working it regularly, in substitution, not only for the plough, but also for the fork—in his opinion, with advantage, both in the cost of horse and human labour, and in the perfection of tillage obtained.

I have no doubt Mr. Mechi will, if asked, confirm all I have said.

I am, sir, your obedient servant, B. SAMUELSON.

[It appears that the Digging Machine was worked with five horses in the first instance—one in the shafts, and four in front, two and two abreast: to these, after a short time, two more were added. The mode of harnessing led our reporter, who was more intent on the work than the horses, to imagine that two horses were working next the Machine. As to the value of this ingenious Machine, time will be the test; but it seemed more useful for pulverising, than for turning and leaving like a plough, or digging like a spade.]

IRELAND.

DUBLIN.—The Lord-Lieutenant has returned to the Viceregal Lodge, Phoenix park, after a short visit to England. His Excellency reached Kinstown on Monday forenoon, in the *Prince Arthur* steam-packet, from Holyhead, and at once proceeded by special train to Dublin.

THE NATIONAL EDUCATION BOARD.—The Archbishop of Dublin, is now engaged in preparing a statement containing a detailed account of circumstances connected with his withdrawal from the National Board of Education, of which he had been a Commissioner since 1838. It is rumoured that Dr. Higgins, Bishop of Limerick, is to be appointed a Commissioner, in the room of Dr. Whately. Two other vacancies are to be filled, in consequence of the resignation of Mr. Baron Greene and Mr. Blackburne.

THE INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.—The number of persons who visited the Exhibition on Monday amounted to 9135. The Countess of St. Germans and the Ladies Cornwallis honoured the Exhibition with a visit. There were also present Lord Elliot, Lord and Lady Ashbrook, the Lord Chancellor and family, Lord Rossmore, Earl and Countess of Clancarty, Lord Massamene, &c.

THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS.—The long continuance of rain has caused some uneasiness about the cereal crops that are in a forward state; and farmers are becoming apprehensive that the excess of moisture might produce a revival of the potato disease. Up to this time, however, no material injury has been done to any crop; and potatoes, with some very few exceptions, are still free from the blight. The agricultural reports, from all quarters, contain most encouraging accounts of the prospects of the harvest.

INSOLVENT DEBTORS' COURT.—W. J. Law, Esq., has been appointed Chief Commissioner in this court in place of H. R. Reynolds, Esq., resigned; and Mr. Sergeant Murphy has taken his place as one of the Commissioners in the same court.

THE GREAT CAB STRIKE.—SKETCHED BY GEORGE THOMAS.



ARRIVAL OF A TRAIN.—NOT A CAB TO BE HAD.

AND so we have had a rebellion! London—that for so many years has been one of the firm things of Europe—our sober, Conservative, law-loving London has had a rebellion. The notion seems monstrous, and yet it's a fact. For three mortal days has it been in the grip of an out-

break, and suffering not a little from repressed circulation. A wild cat has been trying to stifle our elephant, and who are the culprits? Ah, there we have to blush! Who but our own London cabmen; who, naturally belonging to the party of progress, chose to be-

come retrograde, and back all their vehicles into their stables. But what has been the general effect of this crisis? Why, evil and good. How many appointments it has broken—how many payments cut off, only the Post-office knows. But then, on the

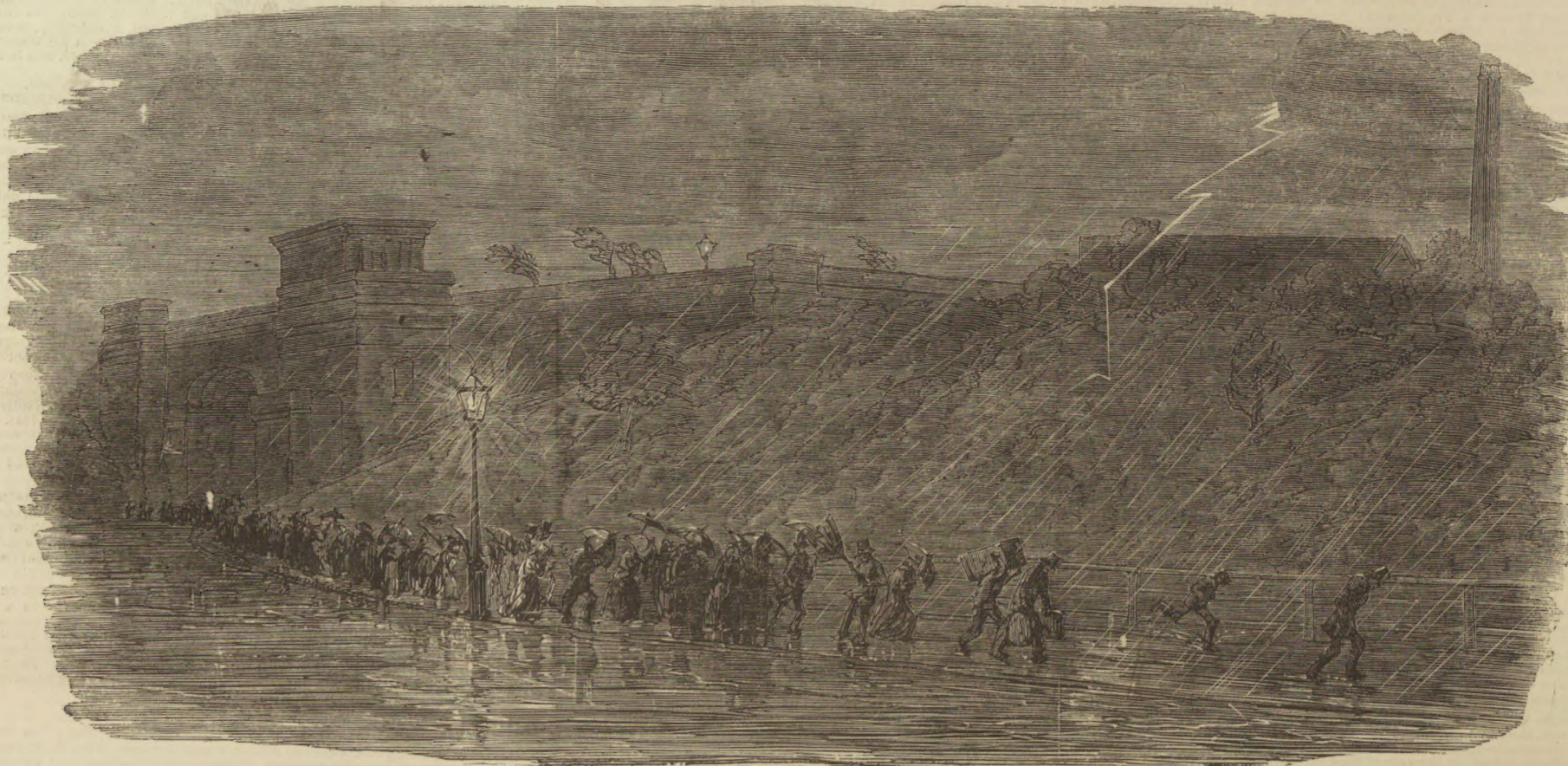


EVERY ONE HIS OWN PORTER.

other hand, what health it may have led to let the doctors reveal. Let them tell us how many who, compelled to try walking, have got attached to the novelty, and made it a habit. How many a poor dys-

peptic, a bankrupt in body, by this little compulsion, has been set on his legs again! Now, of a crisis so memorable we would preserve a few records; we would endeavour to perpetuate its opening day—not so much

in detail as by a rapid synopsis. With our Artist we would glance at its most prominent features, and endeavour to fix and send them down to posterity.



SCENE AT THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY STATION DURING THE CAB STRIKE.—PASSENGERS IN A STORM.

THE GREAT CAB STRIKE.—SKETCHED BY PHIZ.



THE CABMAN'S LAMENT.

We rise then on Wednesday in our usual spirits, and, seated at breakfast, try our first plate of ham; but we have much more to swallow. We hear this strange news; a pang shoots across us! We remember that this morning we expect a friend from the country—a very dear friend; rich, old, and intelligent; and the amiable godfather to three of our boys. He is somewhat old fashioned, and detests carpet-bags: they crease his best clothes, and ruin his wig-box. He adheres to a trunk as to an old institution. We see his predicament—with his ponderous

box, at a favourite station, and not a cab to be had. We scarcely pause for our boots, and rush off to his rescue.

INSIDE OF STATION.

Swift as is our pace, the news has outstripped us, the station is crowded, and every soul sees his fate. Is it for pen or for pencil to depict their expression? Had they heard that the Russians were bombarding the Tower, or the House over night had screwed up the Income-

tax to twenty per cent, would there be a deeper or sadder display of bewilderment? Could they speak, they'd all cry, "Not a cab to be had in London!—is the world at an end?" But their senses return, and they see their position. There's but one thing to do. They must become their own porters, and carry their own bags! And here begins that long train of revolutionary incidents, which reaches its terminus only at the close of the day. Young and old, coarse and lovely, the low and refined, all stand on a level, all partake the same plight. In

NEWSPAPER OPINIONS OF THE STRIKE.



THE RUSH FOR OMNIBUSES, AT THE SOUTH-EASTERN RAILWAY TERMINUS, LONDON-BRIDGE.

vain come the promptings of self-preservation, in vain memory ponders on the old proverb, "aide toi" the fact defeats everything; they must carry their own luggage! and who can do that through the broad streets of London? Is it that loveliest of girls who has come up to town to spend three months with her aunt, and looks over a rampart of parcels and boxes like a beautiful captive in an old school romance? What can she carry beyond her hopes and her fears, and a bag full of letters signed Henry or Charles? Is it that elderly gentlemen who can scarce bear his age? or that fashion-

able youth who finds it enough to carry off his pretensions? And every instant a fresh train comes thundering in, and pours out accessions to their numbers and terrors. Not a cab's to be had; but they've lived in the hope of one; and now the hope must be divided into homoeopathic proportions. At last the calm ceases. Nature must have her way. A hundred mouths open; and the half-dozen steam pipes confess that they're beaten. Cries, threats, and maledictions rise up in wild discord. We think of Mr. Yearsley, and make a rush out of doors.

OUTSIDE THE STATION.

But here, pausing an instant, we see a reaction. The sturdier of the victims, growing desperate, at last have grasped their bags manfully, and are now striding out—their sinews somewhat strung by the sight of these "busses," which offer to a part of them a chance of escape. This transition is cheering; we see at last self-reliance, and fancy this disaster will have its moral effect, will develop the individual, the great end of all culture, and teach them the power of self-respect and support; and



DISCUSSING THE QUESTION IN THE TAPROOM.



ANY CONVEYANCE BETTER THAN NONE.

the women soon follow them, bearing also, and as bravely, their own proper burthens. But what is this crowd that tries to block up their way, that derides and misleads them, and enjoys their vexation. Is it possible that humanity can have sunk to such depths? 'Tis a gang of the rebels who have created all this suffering, and who, not content with creating, must come to gaze at their victims. We feel at this moment a strange longing for Catlin—a wild Cherokeeism. We yearn for a tomahawk, to try the strength of their skulls. We fancy we see a return of the old Pagan saturnalia, wherein the servants became masters, and the masters were made slaves. But all honour to manhood! The mass of the sufferers rise to the event—they prove themselves equal to its trying demands. Firm, erect, guarded, they stride on their way. But these are men. There is woman—helpless, all-confiding woman—who leans on man's aid, and fondly trusts in his promises; and oh! Cabby, Cabby! art thou the fiend to deceive her?—to trifle with her hopes at such a moment as this? What—say you'll get a cab for her—that you'd run all the way to Brompton to oblige such a lady—she whom you have so often plundered without a complaint, are you so sunken as to laugh at, now you can plunder no longer?

THE RUSH TO THE "BUS."

But the reaction is growing. Hope has dawned on the station—the news has shot through it that, if there are no cabs, there are at least "busses" in being—"busses" that will drain them off, twenty at once. We have not paused to depict all the results of the panic; we did not linger to contemplate those pitiable beings whom the news of "no cabs" had rendered utterly prostrate—that elderly gentleman who, sunk on a package, perhaps murmurs, with *Brutus*, "Time and the hour rides through the roughest day;" or, sadder still, that old lady who, crushed by the blow—worse than even her handbox by the heel of a porter—seems waiting not so much for a cab, as a hearse. Yet, even to their spirits can hope find its way—the "bus" is the star that gleams at last on their gloom. Might we not vary the poet—

The hope that for a space did fail,
Now rose and formed a general hail,
And "Busses" was the cry.

Ecce is before them, and rising and strengthening, collecting senses and boxes, at last out they pour, to those doors which swing open like kind hearts to the suffering. But a "bus" after all has but limited goodness. It can hold but so many—it cannot stretch like its charges. So what a crush and a struggle to gain its interior. Talk of a seat in Parliament, when could it weigh in value with one in a "bus"? The scene is growing painful—self defence is the first law. But we are forced to confess that the door of a "bus" is no arena for gallantry. We believe it would have tried the soul of even the chivalrous Burke. We are even getting disgusted, when fortunately the evil gets another abatement.

ARRIVAL OF THE CARTS, &c.

Relief is arriving for goods, if not for man. Aid has been summoned from all parts of the neighbourhood, and now in it comes, rattling in all possible forms, the poorest and meanest not wholly contemptible. From the decent glass-coach to the positive wheelbarrow—from the handsome Barouche to the primitive truck—everything on wheels has a value this morning; and in they all roll, mingled up with that nondescript medium a fly. People usually complain of the flies at this season; but now they are all welcome. This event brings composure, if not satisfaction. Even that irate foreigner who has "sacré'd" so frightfully for the last twenty minutes, believing he has tumbled into an English *émeute*, and that the cabs were all employed in carrying about the insurgents, even he becomes calm, seeing his property is safe, and sallies out with a wheelbarrow, whistling a polka. The great mound of luggage, as lofty as Nimrod, is quickly attacked; and old and young, poor and gentle, all pass out at last; and the procession is brought up by a piece of philosophy—a costermonger's cart, carrying an officer's luggage, and he seated amidst it, composed and compact, as if the whole affair were a bit of campaigning. Ah! worthy costermonger, you have sold many a good apple; but when have you ever trundled such a pippin as this?

THE CABMAN'S LAMENT.

And so the evil at length finds a peaceful conclusion, and we wend on our way. When the question arises, where all this while lurk the mass of the rebels—those crafty reactionists who have caused all this panic? Where are our cabmen, and what are they doing? A group is before us, and we are partly enlightened. A vocalist, one of that great promenade band who start forth in London to set history to music, is vigorously emitting "The Cabman's Lament." Our readers will see this is a deep piece of policy. Our cabman is aware that he is at war with the middle classes, and perhaps with the upper; but he would stand well with his own; and hence one of his tribe who has the poetic affluence, conveys what he feels to be his wrongs to the world, and in verse which has the merit of being highly original. Had we space, we should be happy to dilate on this poem, which powerfully denies that this age is unimaginative. The whole affair is imaginative, grievance and verse. We will give a brief specimen. After dilating on the wrongs which have led to this crisis—after alluding to Shakespeare, saying, Cabby's, like Othello's, occupation is gone—after vowing that the Commissioner means to "starve man and horse," and "would drag a fellow's vitals out by regular Mayne force," he concludes with the following, which, we fear, alludes to Mr. Fitzroy:—

And if he would ride to Old Nick, I solemnly declare
I would drive him there most cheerfully, and charge him no back fare.

READING THE NEWSPAPERS.

We pass on, and at the next turning are further informed as to what our cabmen are doing. They are grouped at a tavern door, eagerly reading or listening to the opinions of various "able editors" upon the Strike—all strongly condemnatory of Cabby. Our cabman, we need not say, is always a grand politician, but has a plan of his own to decide party principles, which certainly is not always in accordance with "Dod." Liberals with him are those who pay double fares; and an old Tory is any one who will only pay eightpence. But in his present position he is a great deal more definite. He is an open Protectionist; he stands up for the old scale and a struggling interest, which is always over-loaded. Our cabman, like the Derbyite, complains of his burthens. So, if he reads the papers daily to see what the House is doing, and how these members behave whom he has conveyed there, he has good cause to-day when he watches the effect of his own manly resistance—on a Parliament that is conspiring to plunder and starve him. But we can learn little here: we must enter the tap-room if we would know his opinions, where he is sitting in committee, not of the House, but the whole trade, with smoke, oaths, and eloquence rolling about him.

DISCUSSING THE QUESTION.

We thread a dim passage loaded with the odour of dead beer, and boldly open the door of this chamber of council—a room twelve feet by twenty, crowded up to its threshold. There is danger in this, we are not one of the band; our shirt is a clean one, our chin newly mown; we are obviously a spy on the oppressed ones' proceedings; but we take the right course; we order a pot of ale, and make a friend of the man near us by begging him to share it. We are accordingly a gentleman who takes up their cause. We perceive in an instant that the proceedings are conducted with proper formality. There is a table in the centre, a chairman at the head of it, and speakers who occupy the floor in succession. This is clearly a House of Commons to the senate of Proprietors that is sitting in Holborn. We had meant to visit this senate, so fitly presided over by a chairman named Gamble; so excited by a Rider who felt warmly for the Drivers; and, moreover, a Beadle who, urging the merits of idleness, was doing all he could to convey the group to a workhouse. But we must confine ourselves to the Commons, and even here we want space to report its discussions. We can only snatch from its wealth of argument a few of the gems. We heard, then, the speakers on the point of their wrongs, the mileage and measurement. They had lived by extortion, why shouldn't they still? We heard of the strike as their only resource. It was only by screwing the public they could hope to screw Parliament. A moral force movement: their strike had no weapons. The cabman, like *Hamlet*, speaks daggers, but uses none. Last of all, we were told of the tyranny of magistrates, who treated poor cabmen just as women are treated who get out of a cab on a cold rainy night: the beaks, as they called them, always sided with the gentleman, whatever the charge, and for this heinous injustice they saw but one cure. If the cabman was wrong let him go to gaol for a month, and if the gentleman was wrong—let him have a month, too; they had had liberty and fraternity, but they wanted equality; and with this proposition, which was received with loud cheers, and which fitly wound up this revolutionary morning—we shut up our note-book, and make for the street.

B. B.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY, JULY 29.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA BILL.

The third reading was moved to-night. Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE proposed a clause to enable natives of India to lay their cases of appeal before the Lords Justices, who should be empowered to refer them to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council—which was rejected by 99 to 48. Mr. BRIGHT renewed his proposal of a central building in Westminster, but it was rejected by a larger majority than before—100 to 72. Sir C. WOOD moved a clause fixing the salaries of the Chairman and Deputy-Chairman of the East India Company at £1500 a year, and those of the Directors at £1000; an increase in conformity with the expressed desire of the House. The House went into committee to fill up blanks as proposed. It appeared, on a division, that Sir C. Wood had mistaken the feeling of the House; for the proposition was negatively by 99 to 83; and the blanks were filled up with the original lower figures, £1000 and £500. In reply to Mr. Bright, Sir C. WOOD said he believed the law would oblige any member of the House nominated to the Directorate to be re-elected before he could sit again in the House. The bill passed amid loud Ministerial cheering.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

LORD LYNDEHURST once more called attention to the claims of the Baron de Bode, and recommended them to the favourable consideration of the Government. The LORD CHANCELLOR denied that the claim was founded in equity. There was, moreover, no fund in existence out of which this claim could be satisfied; and it would be necessary, if it were admitted, to raise £1,500,000 for the purpose. Lord TRURO insisted that it would be a disgrace to the country if their Lordships rejected the claim. Lord MONTAGUE thought that the question should not be reopened. Lord HARROWBY declared his opinion that nothing but the extent of the injustice prevented the acknowledgment of the debt. The Earl of ABERDEEN saw no reason for departing from the course taken by preceding Governments, and regretted that his duty to the public forbade him to accede to the appeal for mercy which Lord Lyndhurst had urged. Upon a division, the motion was rejected by a majority of sixteen to six.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

At the early morning sitting, Mr. ADDERLEY, on moving the second reading of the Juvenile Offenders Bill, which he did not propose to press forward this session, stated that its sole object was to sanction the permissive establishment of reformatory schools to which young criminals might be sent, and the adoption of a new system of treatment, including industrial training, instead of imprisonment in ordinary gaols. Mr. BAINE expressed his perfect concurrence in the object of the bill, which embodied the principal recommendations of the Committee. Lord PALMERSTON also assented to the second reading of the bill, with a full understanding that it should stand over till the next session. The bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed that day three months. The House then went into committee on the Naval Coast Volunteers Bill. Sir J. GRAHAM gave a general outline of the measure, the object of which is to raise a volunteer force for the naval defence of the coast, limited to 10,000 men, to be trained 28 days in the year, the period of enlistment not exceeding five years, her Majesty being empowered, in case of invasion, to require the services of the men afloat for a period not exceeding a year, except under special circumstances. The clauses of the bill were agreed to by the committee, without amendments.

In the evening, the Landlord and Tenant (Ireland) Bill, the Tenants' Compensation (Ireland) Bill, and the Merchant Shipping Bill, were severally read a third time.

The Crime and Outrage (Ireland) Bill and other bills were read a third time and passed.

On the report upon the Hackney Carriage Duties Bill, Mr. LOWE moved a clause which provided that, when the driver was hired by time, and was detained longer than an hour, he should be entitled only to 6d. for every fifteen minutes. This clause was agreed to, and added to the bill.

Mr. F. SCULLY moved a clause empowering the Commissioners of Police to prevent the withdrawal of carriages from public use, by the infliction of a penalty for the offence and forfeiture of the license, which was not objected to on the part of the Government, but he consented to defer the motion until the third reading of the bill.

The back-fare clause gave rise to much desultory discussion, and various suggestions were offered for a new radiating point of the circumference, instead of Charing-cross. At length, on the motion of Mr. Lowe, Temple-bar was substituted for Charing-cross.

About two o'clock the second reading of the Missionary Bishops Bill was moved. Mr. KINNAIRD opposed it. Lord SEYMOUR asked if Government had sanctioned it. Mr. PHILLIMORE, while contending that it was misapprehended, admitted the impossibility of carrying it. The bill was therefore lost.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

An important statement was made by the Earl of CLARENDON this evening, upon the Russo-Turkish dispute, in answer to a question by the Marquis of Clanricarde, which will be found at length in our Supplement.

ADULTERATION OF COFFEE.

LORD TORRINGTON presented a petition, complaining of the Treasury minute which permits chicory to be mixed and sold with coffee.

The Earl of ABERDEEN asserted that the mass of persons preferred the mixture of chicory with coffee to the pure article, and defended the Treasury minute.

LORD WHARNCLEFFE thought the Government were bound to prevent unfair trading, and to protect the poor. The minute issued by the late Ministry was one calculated in many respects to do justice to all parties.

LORD BEAUMONT thought the noble Viscount had made out a very strong case. After a short conversation the subject dropped.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

In the House of Commons, at the early sitting, on the order for going into committee upon the Charitable Trusts Bill,

LORD J. RUSSELL, in moving that the Speaker leave the chair, reminded the House that, at an early period of the session, in announcing the general views of the Government with respect to education, he had urged the necessity of establishing a better management and an improved application of the funds of charitable trusts—a subject which had for more than fifty years engaged the attention of Parliament. He had stated that it was proposed, as many of these charities had reference to education, that the body intrusted with the direction and superintendence of their administration should be the Committee of Privy Council for Education, with the necessary legal assistance. This bill, which had passed the other House, had been there referred to a Select Committee, who had paid very great attention to the subject, and they had recommended, in order to separate the questions of administration and superintendence from politics and party, that there should be persons named by the Crown, and holding office during good behaviour, to whom the general administration should be confided; in which suggestion the Government had concurred. He should propose, he said, a few alterations of the bill in the committee. He proposed that Roman Catholic charities should be excluded from the operation of this bill, not, however, with a view of omitting them permanently. The House then went into committee upon the bill, the clauses of which were agreed to, after much discussion; the amendment of the 60th clause, exempting Roman Catholic charities, being deferred by Lord J. Russell until the report. When the House resumed, Sir F. THESIGER said, he really must congratulate the noble Lord and the Government upon the near approach of the passing of this bill, after a delay of thirty years. He was quite sure that it would prove highly beneficial.

In the evening, on the question that the Speaker leave the chair, that the House might resolve itself into a Committee of Supply,

Mr. HUME urged the claims of the Geographical Society, which had petitioned for rooms for its accommodation. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER acknowledged the usefulness of the Society; and said that the Government were considering its request.

Mr. T. DUNCAN called attention to the defective state of the law for the trial of controverted election petitions, as illustrated in the case of the inquiry into the withdrawal of the Norwich petitions. Lord J. RUSSELL admitted that the state of the law was defective; and assured Mr. DUNCAN that the necessity for a remedy should not be lost sight of; adding that some progress has been made in drawing up a bill on the subject.

LORD D. STUART complained of the state of the metropolitan police; but under existing circumstances would not press for a select committee on the subject.

Mr. J. PHILLIMORE moved an address to Her Majesty to cause the care and memorial of the Parsee merchants Jervanjee Merjee, and Pestonjee

Merjee, to be referred to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. He described the case of these merchants, who were native subjects of the British Government, and had had the management of certain cotton districts in Berar, in the territories in the Nizam. They complained that they had been grossly wronged by the Nizam, and the East India Company had not only not interfered for their protection, but were at this moment in possession of the very lands upon the mortgage of which they had advanced money to the Nizam. He stated that the balance due to the merchants from the Nizam was £260,000. Sir C. WOOD denied that the East India Government were called upon to interfere to enforce payment of an alleged debt due from the Nizam. A debate took place, and the motion was virtually negatived, by 111 to 69 votes. The House then went into committee *pro forma*, and resumed immediately.

On the order for the second reading of the Colonial Church Regulation Bill, Lord J. RUSSELL moved that it be deferred until Monday, in order that the House might see the amendments which had been prepared by the Solicitor-General. Mr. KINNAIRD, entertaining the strongest objections to the bill, moved to defer the second reading for three months. The SOLICITOR-GENERAL said, if the amendments were laid upon the table, it would be found that the bill was reduced to one-tenth, and that they would accomplish two objects—first, that there should be preserved the most perfect religious equality among all denominations in the colonies; and, secondly, that the colonies should be left to the most free and uncontrolled management of all their affairs, ecclesiastical and civil. The objects of the bill were explained by Lord J. RUSSELL, and warmly defended by Mr. ROUNDELL PALMER. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER took a general view of the *status* of the Church of England in the colonies, and of its exigencies. Mr. V. SMITH, Mr. HENLEY, and Mr. NEWDEGATE, opposed the further progress of the bill; and Mr. KINNAIRD's amendment being agreed to, the bill is lost.

The Universities (Scotland) Bill was read a third time, and passed. Mr. HENWOOD moved for leave to bring in a bill to remove Dissenting University disabilities. Sir R. INGLIS opposed the motion; and on the advice of the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, it was withdrawn.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

EPISCOPAL AND CAPITULAR ESTATES BILL.

Mr. WIGRAM moved to defer the second reading of the bill for three months, on the ground that the late period of the session would prevent the passing of the bill this year. Sir R. INGLIS, on behalf of the caputular bodies, seconded the motion, and protested against the property of the oldest landholders in the country being transferred to the hands of three laymen sitting in London. The Marquis of BLANDFORD did not propose, he said, to ask more than to have the bill read a second time, whereby the House would merely affirm the principle enunciated in the preamble—that the property belonging to ecclesiastical persons should be secured to them in a manner more befitting their spiritual character, and that they should have fixed instead of fluctuating incomes. The bill did not take away the fee of their property from these bodies, but vested its management in the hands of commissioners already intrusted with most responsible functions, showing the confidence reposed in them by Parliament. Lord J. RUSSELL urged the withdrawal of the bill, though he was very far from saying that its principle was not that which Parliament might ultimately adopt. Lord BLANDFORD, in deference to the feeling of the House, consented not to proceed further with the bill; which was accordingly withdrawn.

On the order for the committee of the Expenses of Elections Bill, Colonel SIBTHORP moved to defer it for three months; but, upon a division, this amendment was negatived by 85 to 19, and the House went into committee. Several hon. members took objection to the clause prohibiting the employment of bands of music and flags at elections. After a protracted and somewhat angry discussion, the bill was in effect lost.

The Naval Coast Volunteers Bill was read a third time and passed. At six o'clock the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

ROYAL COMMISSION.

The Royal assent was given by commission to the following bills, viz.:—The Succession Duty; Common Lodging-houses; Convicted Prisoners Removal and Confinement; Savings Banks Annulments; Coinage Offences, Colonies; Colonial Bishops Act Extension; Patronage Exchange; Taxing Officers, Common Law Business (Ireland); Bankruptcy (Scotland); Land Revenue; Copyholds; Customs Duties; Dublin Parliamentary Registration; Stamp Duties; Stamp Duties (No. 2); Resident Magistrates (Ireland); Turnpike Trusts Arrangements; Sheep, &c.; Contagious Prevention; Battersea Park; Westminster-bridge; Spitalfields to Shoreditch Improvement; Pimlico Improvement; Whitteewood, otherwise Whittebury, Forest; London Docks; Electric Telegraph Company of Ireland; Victoria (London) Docks; Holmes Reservoir (No. 2); Whitechapel Improvement; Westminster Improvements; West London and Crystal Palace Railway; and a vast number of railway and other bills—in all upwards of 100. The Lords Commissioners were the Duke of Argyll, the Marquis of Breadalbane, and Lord Colchester.

On the motion of the Earl of CHICHESTER, the Parish Vestries (No. 2) Bill was read a third time and passed. The Municipal Corporation Act Amendment Bill; and the Burghs Harbours (Scotland) Bill were severally read a third time and passed. The Brecon Collegiate Church Bill passed through committee. The Summary Jurisdiction (Ireland) Bill, and the Petty Sessions (Ireland) Bill were read a third time and passed. The Entry of Seamen Bill passed through committee. The Sheriff's Court (Scotland) Bill, and the Highway Rates Bill were severally read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The Speaker took the chair at twelve o'clock. On the order of the day for reading the Bedford Charity Estate Bill a second time, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that the object of the bill was to place the charity under a better system, by giving its management to a new board. The amount of the revenues of the charity was about £12,000 per annum, and its distribution had occasioned a great deal of contest and wrangling with a view to the promotion of political objects. The bill would place the distribution under the Lord Chancellor, which would get rid of the evils complained of. Sir J. WALMSLEY moved that the bill be read a second time that day three months. It was an attempt to transfer to the Lord Chancellor the patronage which was now exercised by the inhabitants of Bedford. No less than 1600 out of the 1800 inhabitant householders of Bedford had petitioned against the bill. Sir F. THESIGER supported the bill; the second reading of which was ultimately carried by a majority of 70 to 8.

Mr. HAYTER moved a new writ for the southern division of the county of Stafford, in the room of Major-General Sir George Anson, who has accepted the stewardship of the Chiltern Hundreds.

LORD J. RUSSELL expressed a hope that, on Wednesdays, Government business would be allowed to take precedence. Mr. PHINN said he had a motion on the paper respecting convents which could lead to no practical result, as he understood it was intended that no division should take place on this subject. He was, therefore, not desirous to interfere with public business by bringing it on. Mr. NEWDEGATE said he was obliged to persevere, and not allow the House to be defeated by such a plan as that alluded to by Mr. Phinn. Lord J. RUSSELL said he would not press the second reading of the Education Bill, and he had hoped others would also give way to pressing public business. Mr. SPOONER said, he could not consent to give way with respect to the Nunneries Bill, and he knew others who were equally resolved.

CHARITABLE TRUSTS BILL.

The bill, as amended, was considered. On the proposition of Lord J. RUSSELL, that when the trusts belonged to Roman Catholics, their management should be entrusted to persons of that persuasion,

Sir F. THESIGER said he viewed the amendment to the bill with the greatest alarm, and the more so because of the time at which it was introduced. Surely Quakers and Jews were equally entitled to a similar exemption. It was, he contended, visionary to suppose that any commission or any Attorney-General would at the present or any future time attempt to abolish one of those Roman Catholic trusts, merely because it came within the operation of the law against superstitious uses. And, if so, such a clause was perfectly unnecessary in his own point of view, while highly objectionable in others.

LORD J. RUSSELL said that the suspicion on the part of the Roman Catholics that this bill might be mischievously directed against Roman Catholic charities, many of which are illegal, was, in his opinion well founded. If the Quakers and Jews had made a similar application for exemption, and had shown as good grounds for such an exemption as had been done by the Roman Catholics, he should have proposed a similar clause in their favour. Monies left for masses for the dead was declared by law to be left for superstitious uses, and, of course, an illegal trust.

Mr. NEWDEGATE asked the House if it was prepared to allow the aggression of Cardinal Wiseman, and then to exempt Roman Catholic charitable trusts from the operation of a law to which all other sects were to be subjected? The exemption now proposed involved, in his opinion, most dangerous consequences.

Mr. HEADLAM could not sufficiently express the gratification he felt at the speech of Lord J. Russell, and cordially supported the clause; but proposed an amendment, limiting its operation to two years, in order that legislation on the subject of Roman Catholic trusts might within that time be carried out.

Mr. DOWDER supported the exemption.

Sir F. THESIGER said he would take the sense of the House upon the clause of the noble Lord, for he could not accept it even as amended by Mr. Headlam.

The House then divided, and the numbers were—For the clause, 87; against it, 76: majority, 11. The clause was then added to the bill.

The Yeoman Usher of the Black Rod appeared at the table, and summoned the House to appear at the bar of the House of Lords to hear the Royal Assent given by commission to several bills which have received the assent of both Houses of Parliament.

On the return of the Speaker, some other amendments were disposed of, and the Bill was ordered to be read a third time on Monday next.

The Assented Taxes Bill, as amended, was considered, and ordered to be read a third time to-morrow.

The House then adjourned until six o'clock.

At the evening sitting, Lord PALMERSTON, in reference to the Truck Act Amendment Bill, which stood for a second reading, said, though his mind was unchanged in respect to the necessity of enacting such a measure, yet that, having had many representations made to him on the subject, both by masters and employers, he thought that they were entitled to be heard. He, therefore, moved that the Truck Act Amendment Bill be read a second time this day three months, with a view to affording an opportunity to all parties interested being heard, and to a measure on the subject being brought forward early next session. Mr. FORSTER having expressed his dis-satisfaction at the determination of the noble Lord, the bill was ordered to be read a second time this day three months.

On the motion of Sir R. H. INGLIS, which was seconded by Lord J. RUSSELL, it was resolved that in the event of the unavoidable absence of the Speaker from illness or otherwise, the Chairman of Committees be authorised to take the chair.

On the motion for going into Committee of Supply, Lord J. RUSSELL entered into a statement with reference to the condition of the colony of Jamaica, which he contrasted with that of Trinidad and British Guiana, much to the disadvantage of the former. The evils under which Jamaica suffered the Government attributed principally to the perversion of representative institutions. The noble Lord then proceeded to state the measures which the Government proposed to adopt for the benefit of the colony—one of which was the reduction of the interest of its debt under Imperial guarantee; and another to declare by enactment that money-bills should only originate in the House of Assembly, as in the British House of Commons, with members of the Government. To carry out those measures, the Government recommended to her Majesty the appointment of Sir M. H. Barkley as Governor, at a salary of £5,000.

Sir J. PAXINGTON attributed all the evils under which Jamaica was suffering to the legislation of 1846, and complained of the conduct of the Government in not bringing forward those propositions at an earlier period of the session.

After some discussion, the House went into Committee of Supply.

On the vote of £55,000 for the British Museum, Mr. HUMPHREY complained of the great delay which had taken place in preparing the catalogue, and of the vast sums that had been expended on the building. He subsequently proposed to reduce this vote to £46,000. Sir R. H. INGLIS said that the catalogue was progressing as rapidly as possible. Sir W. MOLESWORTH said there was still a great want of accommodation at the Museum, arising from want of funds, but he hoped the difficulty would be diminished by the next session. The original vote was ultimately agreed to.

The sum of £11,596 was voted for the Board of Health; £15,087, for the Incumbered Estates Court (Ireland); and £10,920, for Light-Houses.

Various other votes were discussed and agreed to in the course of the night.

The other orders of the day having been disposed of, the House adjourned.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

FRANCIS WILLIAM, SIXTH EARL OF SEAFIELD.



The Earl of Seafield died August 30th. His Lordship, who was born March 6th, 1778, succeeded to the family honours at the decease of his elder brother, the late Sir Lewis Alexander Grant, Bart., of Grant, who became, in 1811, fifth Earl of Seafield, by the death, issueless, of James, Earl of Findlater and Seafield. This second Earldom, with remainder, in default of direct heirs male, to heirs general, was granted in 1701 to the eminent lawyer, James Lord Ogilvie, eldest son of the third Earl of Findlater. Of his Lordship it may be mentioned, *en passant*, that he made a motion in the House of Lords June 1st, 1713, for leave to bring in a bill to dissolve the Union with Scotland, which was refused by a majority of four only. The Peers present, 108, were equally divided; the proxies, 13, for, and 17, against.

The Earl of Seafield, whose decease we record, married, first, 26th May, 1811, Mary Anne, only daughter of John Charles Dunn, Esq., of Higham-house, and by her (who died 27th Feb., 1840) had several children, of whom the eldest surviving son, John Charles, Viscount Reidhaven, succeeds as seventh Earl. His Lordship married, secondly, 17th August, 1813, Louisa Emma, second daughter of the late Robert George Mansell, Esq., of Limerick, by whom he had no issue. The Earl was Lord-Lieutenant of Inverness-shire.

JAMES, LORD RUTHVEN.



The death of this nobleman took place at Freeland, in Perthshire, on the 27th ult., at the age of seventy-five. His Lordship succeeded his father as fifth Baron, Dec. 27, 1789; and married, Dec. 20, 1813, Mary, daughter of Walter Campbell, Esq., of Shawfield, by whom he had no issue. The title consequently devolves on his only surviving sister, Mary Elizabeth Thornton, wife of Walter More, Esq., of Harperton, county Wexford. The dignity was originally conferred, in 1651, on Sir Thomas Ruthven, of Freeland, whose grandfather, the Hon. Alexander Ruthven, was younger brother of the ancestor of the Earls of Gowrie.

MARY, COUNTESS OF MINTO.



The Countess of Minto died at Nervi, near Genoa, on the 21st ult., aged 67. Her Ladyship was the eldest daughter of Patrick Brydone, Esq. She married, in 1806, the Hon. Gilbert Elliott (eldest son of the first Lord Minto), who subsequently—on his father's elevation to an Earldom—became Viscount Melgund, and is the present Earl of Minto. The issue of the marriage consists of five sons and five daughters. Of the former, the eldest is Viscount Melgund; and of the latter, the second, Frances-Anne-Maria, is the wife of Lord John Russell.

SIR WILLIAM WARRE, C.B.

This gallant officer, who died recently, attained the rank of Lieutenant-General Nov. 1851. He served in Spain and Portugal, at the Cape of Good Hope, and in Ireland. For his services with the Portuguese forces as aide-de-camp to Marshal Beresford, he was invested with the Order of the Tower and Sword; and for his participation in the Peninsular war, and as Assistant Quartermaster-General under Sir William Clinton, he received the insignia of the Order of St. Bento d'Aviz.

In 1838, he obtained from his own Sovereign the Companionship of the Bath; and in the following year was knighted. In 1847, the Colonelcy of the 94th Foot was given to him. Sir William was born in 1784, and married, in 1812, the youngest daughter of C. Thompson Maling, Esq., of West Herrington, county Durham.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R. F. Woolwich.—If you will send an address, a copy of suitable rules for a newly-established Chess-club shall be forwarded.

ROBERT RANDOLPH.—No. The problem is quite right. Look at it carefully once more.

EL. ALFYN, Malines.—Many thanks for the trouble you have taken. A letter shall be despatched shortly.

F. D. Bruges.—We shall expect to hear from you on your return.

A. SCHRUBBER.—We are quite as desirous as you can be that a complete list of all the Chess-clubs in the Kingdom, with the times and place of meeting of each, should be published. Such a list would be of great convenience to Chess-players generally, and would eventually prove beneficial to the Clubs themselves. Self-evident as all this must be, and notwithstanding our repeated applications to the members of Clubs to furnish us with the required information, we are not yet in possession of the names even of one-third of the Chess-clubbists in Britain.

A. K. University College.—Your diagram is quite unintelligible. Why not adopt the simple course of giving the initials of each piece, as "W. K." "B. Q." instead of attempting to represent them by figures? 1. Your diagram is quite unintelligible. 2. Your variation on Mr. R. F. Woolwich's is not a variation at all, but a new problem.

RUGBY-NEWS.—Your suggestion shall have attention.

J. P.—Your suggestion shall have attention.

R. T. M. ANTI-QUILP.—We have not space, nor is the subject worth it. Such a squabbling about what is only intended for an agreeable recreation is absurd, and must end in making Chess and Chess-players ridiculous, if not put a stop to.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 493, by J. P. K. F. of Woolwich, Walter, Major G., Ernest, Philip-Chess, Morda, P. T. W., are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS, by J. P., Sigma, U. P., Dickory, S. P. Q. K., P. T. W., Ernest, Philip, Derevon, are correct. All others are wrong.

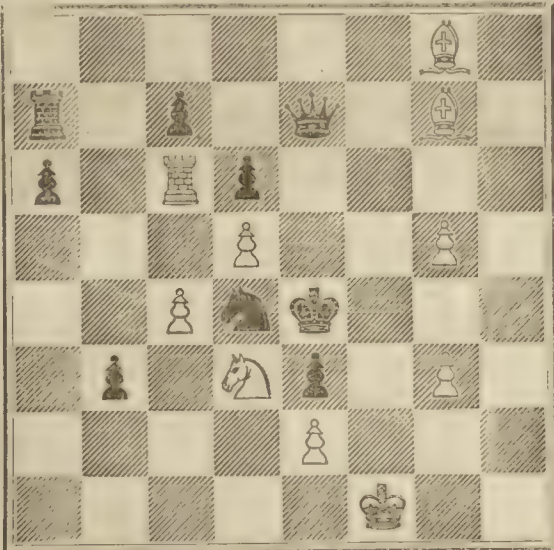
* * * A host of Chess Communications must remain unanswered for the present.

| WHITE. | | BLACK. | |
|-----------------|--|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1. B to Q B 6th | | 3. B to K B 3rd | 1. P to Q B 3rd |
| 2. K to K 5th | | 4. B to K 2nd | P takes B |
| | | 5. P to Q 4th—Mate. | |

PROBLEM No. 496.

By A. F., of Florence.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in six moves.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

Sir,—I am old-fashioned enough to look with suspicion upon all loud-mouthed pretension, and cannot be persuaded, because a man is called "Signor" or "Monsieur," or "Herr," that he must needs be an epitome of all the talents. We have heard a great deal lately about Herr Harwitz's challenges, counter-challenges, and the like; and I must say, whatever his other qualifications may be, modesty and decent respect for the country whose hospitality he subsists on are not of the number. But let that pass. What I wish to ask is—how it happens that, while this professor (who is, I hear, a resident of Breslau) has a townsman of such acknowledged prowess as Herr Andersen—one willing and anxious to encounter him—living within a stone's throw, he did not "set up his bills" at home; and, instead of defying "the wide wide world," restrict himself, in the first instance, to an offer to play any one in that city? To leave a ready opponent at his own door, and come over to England and fulminate a challenge "to play any one," savours more of hectoring than true valour. And this appears to be the light in which his behaviour is regarded in Germany; where, if I am correctly informed, he has not a single backer, and where his challenges and vauntings are not even noticed.

I should be glad also to know, since the amateurs of Germany take no part in the subscription for backing Mr. H., and he himself, it is notorious, does not risk a shilling on his own part, where the stakes are to come from, in the event of his really playing Mr. Staunton? I presume they will be found by British amateurs. I hope, if this is the case, the Chess community will be favoured with the names of these truly patriotic supporters of native talent.—I am, Sir, truly yours,

A MEMBER OF THE NORTHERN AND MIDLAND COUNTIES CHESS ASSOCIATION.

THE NEW CHEMICAL PORCELAIN.—In a lecture recently delivered at the Royal Institution, on the manufacture of glass and porcelain, by Dr. E. Frankland, F.R.S., &c., Professor of Chemistry, Owens College, Manchester, the following explanation was given of a new manufacture introduced at Worcester by the Messrs. Grainger:—"Chinese porcelain," said the lecturer, "is still, in certain respects, unrivalled; but, for the manufacture of an article which approaches very nearly to the Chinese hard porcelain, we are, in this country, indebted to Messrs. George Grainger and Co., of Worcester. The porcelain manufactured by the firm, and which, from its resistance to corrosion, they term 'semi, or chemical porcelain,' is decidedly the purest and best of English manufacture that has ever come under my observation. The body is semi-vitrified throughout; free from lime; and possesses immense strength. The glaze is free from lead, very hard, and resists the action of the most corrosive liquids; both the glaze and body also bear sudden changes of temperature without cracking. All these qualities render it admirably adapted for dinner and dessert services; and it is, in fact, already extensively used for these purposes, and is less costly than ordinary china. The employment of this porcelain in the construction of vessels for chemical purposes has been very successful, and has rendered the importation of the expensive Berlin ware almost unnecessary. To the excellence of this portion of Messrs. Grainger and Co.'s manufactures I can bear personal testimony, having used their chemical vessels for a considerable length of time in my own laboratory."

UNSEALED CORRESPONDENCE.—Among other expedients adopted to avoid the present high rates of ocean postage is the practice of sending letters across the sea by private hands unsealed. A person may convey a portmanteau full of letters in this way without charge upon them for the transit service. It is impossible to estimate the extent of the unsealed and unpaid correspondence, especially between the myriads of emigrants in the British colonies and other countries and their friends in the mother country. A gentleman recently returned from a long residence at Port Natal, Africa, thus describes the extent to which this practice is carried by the inhabitants of that colony: "To show their disposition to correspond, I will mention the fact that whenever a ship was about to sail with passengers home—for such the emigrant still looks upon Old England—they were pressed to take charge of numerous letters and post them on their arrival. It was so on my leaving the colony; and if the anxiety shown by the emigrants to get their letters ready for me, could have been witnessed by the inhabitants of this their fatherland, it would have aroused sufficient feeling and determination to abolish this unwise tax upon their correspondence. To avoid it, and still communicate with those they held dear, I had placed under my care numbers of letters unsealed, and written on sheets of paper, without being folded, and the money given me to purchase the penny stamps, and post them to their various destinations. Now who could or would refuse to do this? No one who knew what the heart of an emigrant feels. Accustomed to respect and obey the laws, I yet felt it an act of duty and kindness to become thus an agent in avoiding them. Only reflect for a moment the secrets of family correspondence to be thus exposed rather than lose an opportunity of sending home a line! Now had there been an Ocean Penny Postage, I should not have been solicited to bring a single letter: it would have been thought an imposition."

NEW CAB FARES.—(Simpkin and Marshall, and W. and H. Smith).—The change in the law has demanded the correction of the "Distance Map for ascertaining Cab Fares, &c." Here we have the map of the metropolis, printed in red, and the distance angles (each side representing a direct half-mile), printed in blue. Upon the map margin are the new laws and regulations, popularised, under heads for ready reference; as, the badge, the number ticket, the hiring, journey, fares, waiting-time, disputes, &c., comprising all the heads of the new act, in as few words as are consistent with right understanding of the matter.

EPITOME OF NEWS.—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The usual Ministerial white-bait dinner will be given this day week, the 13th inst.

The *Bengal*, with the heavy portion of the East India, China, and Mediterranean mails, arrived at Southampton on Thursday morning; and the *Cadiz*, from Constantinople, Malta, and Gibraltar, the same day.

A Queen's messenger left London on Wednesday evening for St. Petersburg, conveying the instructions to Sir Hamilton Seymour (our Ambassador there), alluded to by Lord Clarendon on Tuesday.

Mr. Oliveira has postponed to next session his motion for a select committee on the state, &c., of the bridges over the Thames.

The King of Hanover, as well as the Queen, have taken the measles. The two young Princesses are also suffering from the same complaint, but the Crown Prince has recovered.

Lieut.-Colonel Shiel, her Majesty's Minister in Persia, has arrived in this country on leave of absence.

Major Gordon Cumming, jun., of Altyre, lately killed with the rod, in the Spey, fifty-nine grise and salmon in six days.

Three large tobacco manufactories were destroyed by fire, at Richmond, Virginia, on the 15th ult., entailing a loss of upwards of 40,000 dols.

Prince Frederick William, heir-apparent of Prussia, and the Prince Adelbert, Lord High Admiral of the Prussian navy, will shortly visit Portsmouth to inspect a small squadron of that nation about to retit at that port.

General Anson has issued his farewell address to the electors of South Staffordshire, whom he has represented since the year 1837.

The Queen and the rest of the Royal family of Portugal have just removed from Cintra to Mafra, where they intend to spend the summer.

Mr. Thomas Spong, of a brewery firm at Leeds, was killed on Monday night, by being thrown out of his gig, on his way home from Bradford.

The first two subscribers to the Dargan Testimonial (for the Dublin Exhibition) are Mr. Fairbairn, of Manchester, and Dr. Hayden, of Dublin, each for £100.

It is confidently expected that Parliament will be prorogued by her Majesty in person, on the 15th, or at farthest, on the 20th of this month.

The Grand Duke Constantine, Grand Admiral of Russia, arrived at Odessa on the 17th ult.

Those connected with the Queen's Eastern dominions will be glad to learn that the East India Board have agreed to give to the Amalgamated Railway Company a guarantee of 4½ per cent on the sum of £8,000,000.

A Jewish widow, named Leipman, keeper of a common shop near Wellclose-square, is under the horrible charge of burning her newborn infant. She was with difficulty defended from the summary vengeance of her neighbours.

Mr. Nathaniel Hawthorne, the distinguished author of the "Scarlet Letter," and other works of fiction, has been appointed Consul at Liverpool for the United States.

The Select Committee of Accidents in Coal Mines has published its first report. It contains the evidence of Mr. Joseph Dickenson, Mr. H. F. Mackworth, Mr. Edward Cayley, and Mr. Martin Jude.

The Schools of Declamation and Acting established in Paris are not likely to fail for lack of students—160 having applied for admission during the current year.

The United States have contributed 1600 dollars to the subscription list for raising a monument in London to the memory of Jenner, the discoverer of vaccination.

A man was killed accidentally last week, near Salisbury: while getting over a gate, a pruning-knife, carried open in his pocket, penetrated the femoral artery, and he bled to death.

A letter from Shiraz, in Persia, by a Swedish physician, gives a dreadful account of the almost total destruction of that town by an earthquake, on the 21st of April. Not less than 12,000 persons perished by the disaster.

The deliveries of tea in London last week fell off to 588,992 lbs. For two months the decline has been continuous; but the clearances in June have immensely increased, owing to the reduction in duty.

A letter from Mentz, of July 28, states that the Emperor of the French has conferred the grand-cross of the Legion of Honour on Prince Emile of Hesse.

The three-quarter portrait of Mr. Pitt, by Mr. Hoppner, bought a few months back by Mr. Moffatt, M.P., has just been presented by that gentleman to the National Gallery, and may be seen in the principal British room at Marlborough House.

Two distinct shocks of an earthquake were felt in Portland, U.S., on the 27th June, between five and six o'clock. Many citizens were aroused from their beds by the shaking and rumbling.

The amount realised during the war, by the combined forces in China, from property captured or detained, amounted to £103,697 18s.; and the expenditure in donation batta to the troops, to £44,557. The account is rendered by the East India Company.

A terrible storm broke over Dieppe on the 29th ult. Two persons were killed with the lightning, and a house was set on fire; but the flames were soon extinguished.

A finance committee of the Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1881 was held on Tuesday. There were present, Earl Granville (chairman), Lord Overstone, Sir A. Spearman, Bart., Sir W. Cabott, and Mr. Edgar Bowring (secretary). Capt. Owen, R.E., also attended.

It appears from a return, moved for by Mr. Pellatt, the reduction under the new scale of duties for the assessed taxes, to the twenty highest contracts of composition, within the London district, effected under the previous act, will be considerable. In most instances the new duties do not reach a third of the former charge.

The pupils of the Lycée Bonaparte have raised 103fr. for the relief of the workmen who were injured while constructing a house in the Rue du Havre.

On Sunday last, as Mr. Lord, a dyer, at Shelf, near Halifax, was gathering some cherries, the branch of the tree gave way, and he fell backwards on the edge of a stone fence, and broke his neck.

The value of the specie imported into the United Kingdom last week was unusually small, amounting to but £193,000. The shipments were nearly to the same amount—£190,000.

It is stated that Mgr. Sacconi, Apostolic Nuncio in Bavaria, is destined by the Pope to replace the late Mgr. Garibaldi as Papal Nuncio in France.

On Monday, the bill which has passed the Lords was printed by order of the Com-mons, to authorise the consecration of British subjects to be missionary bishops in foreign heathen lands.

The supplementary estimate for the Royal Naval Coast Volunteers for the year 1853-4 is £50,000.

Last Saturday, a deputation from the stonemasons and their labourers waited upon the parochial authorities of Marylebone, and presented a memorial, praying an increase of wages of 6d. a day, which, after some opposition, was agreed to.

M. de Beauregard, one of the oldest members of the French Conservative press, died last week. Ever since the Revolution of 1830 M. Beauregard had been a leading writer in the columns of the *Gazette de France*.

A correspondent states that in 1840 only 550 lbs. of nux vomica were imported into England, whereas in 1852 nearly as many tons reached our market. He wishes to know the cause of this increased consumption.—*Lancet*.

M. Arago, perpetual secretary to the Academy of Sciences, has again taken up his residence at the Observatory, in Paris. His health is somewhat improved from his sojourn in the South of France.

The number of deaths in New York during the week ending the 16th July, amounted to 564—the greatest number during the present year.

The Astley Cooper prize of £300 for the best essay on the "Structure and Functions of the Human Spine," has been awarded to Henry Gray, Esq., F.R.S., Wilton-street, Grosvenor-square.

The orders from Australia are so extensive at Birmingham as to render their execution extremely difficult. All hands, however, have been set on in the manufacture of general hardware and hollow iron ware, and large consignments will ere long be forwarded.

A new levy of recruits—seven in every thousand—has been ordered by the Emperor Nicholas, "for the purpose of completing his land and sea forces." The Jews are ordered to furnish their contingents, like their co-religionists in other parts of the Empire.

A deputation from the Metropolitan Counties Branch of the Medical and Surgical Association had an interview with Viscount Palmerston on Monday, at the Home Office, on the subject of the Vaccination Bill.

ARRIVAL OF GOLD FROM AUSTRALIA.—The *Queen of England*, Capt. Baillie, from Melbourne, Port Philip, arrived on the 31st inst., with 40,395 oz. of gold dust on board, valued at £161,583, and with the following passengers, viz. Mrs. J. C. McLaren and family, Mr. and Mrs. Archibald, and Dr. J. J. Evans. Captain Baillie reports having discovered a comet while on his passage homewards.



PAPIER-MACHE VILLAGE FOR AUSTRALIA.

A PAPIER-MACHE VILLAGE FOR AUSTRALIA.

BUILDING houses with cards has been a favorite pastime of many a past generation; but it was reserved for the ingenuity of the present day to construct habitations of paper. Yet of this frail material is manufactured the "village" shown in the accompanying illustration.

Papier-mâché has long been extensively employed for the interior decorations of houses; but to Messrs. Bielefeld is due the merit of applying the elegant material in external constructions; and, having been commissioned by Mr. Seymour—a gentleman about to take up his residence in Australia—to manufacture for him a certain number of portable houses, the *paper village* was executed, and temporarily set up at the works of Messrs. Bielefeld, near the Staines station of the South-Western Railway. The village is composed of ten houses, including a villa, with nine rooms, 12 feet high; a store-house, 80 feet long, with four dwelling-rooms (sitting-room, two bed-rooms, and kitchen, with cooking apparatus); and houses of different sizes, of from two to six rooms. The Villa on the left of the upper illustration has a drawing-room and dining-room, each with a bay-window; also, a hall, several bed-rooms, two closets, and kitchen. The interior decorations are so complete as to render it next to impossible to fancy yourself in any other than a brick dwelling. The mantel-pieces in the drawing and dining-rooms are of papier-mâché, have a caryatid figure on each side, and are of bold design.

The material of the several houses is of patent waterproof, papier-mâché, and the construction is also patented. It consists of paper and rags, beautifully ground and reduced to pulp, which, when dry and pressed, become as hard as a board. There is no lath-and-plaster, yet the walls are solid, indeed more so than in half the partitions of houses built in the present day. They are also double walled, so as to allow of free ventilation all round, and in the roof. The roofs are nearly flat, being just sufficiently curved to throw off the rain. The flooring can be taken up in large square pieces, joists and all. The walls and ceilings are in like compartments, and afford every facility for either taking down or raising with despatch. One of the smaller houses has been taken down and re-erected in the space of four hours.



ROOM IN A PAPIER-MACHE VILLA.

During the late floods, these houses were nearly two feet under water, yet were not injured. We are assured by Messrs. Bielefeld, the patentees of this new

material and construction, that it will make good buildings for barracks, park-lodges, and shooting-boxes for the Moors; as well as for additions to houses, as billiard-rooms, &c.

EXTENSIVE SHOW OF PINE-APPLES.

ABOUT ten years have elapsed since Messrs. John and James Adam and Co., of Pudding-lane, Lower Thames-street, sold by auction the first large cargo of Pine-apples imported into England; since which time they have annually held large sales of this luxuriant fruit; and this extensive trade has, doubtless, acted as great encouragement to the growers and shippers, in conveying the fruit to this country in as perfect a state as possible. The fastest sailing fruit schooners, of about 120 tons burden are carefully selected for the voyage; and they are fitted in a very superior manner, by which means both the beauty and the condition of this fruit are well preserved.

The *Prospero*, *Ipswich Lass*, *Susan*, *Isabel*, *Black Cat* (of the two last of which Messrs. Adam are the owners), and a few other vessels have been principally employed in this trade, and have generally performed their passages in a very short space of time; some of the above-named having brought cargoes in less than 24 days.

Eleuthera, a small narrow island, one of the Bahamas in the West Indies, is the place from which the greater quantity of fruit is imported. There are annually cultivated large quantities of pines, which have a very beautiful appearance. When approaching ripeness, they are plucked from the ground with the entire root, and are carefully stowed on board the vessel in the same state.

Originally some little difficulty existed respecting the manner of showing the prices when offered for sale; but this has been overcome by Messrs. Adam, who have built a new warehouse upon a very convenient plan, where the Pines are exhibited to the best advantage.

Our Artist has represented one of the rooms, with a fine display of the beautiful fruit.

The cargo of the *Susan* has just been sold by Messrs. Adam, who expect about the middle of the present month the arrival of the clipper schooner *Scud*, with a cargo of fine pines, which will be the last arrival this season.



GREAT SHOW OF PINE-APPLES.

MEETING OF THE BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, AT ROCHESTER.



ALLINGTON CASTLE.



VISIT OF THE BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION TO KIT'S COTY HOUSE.



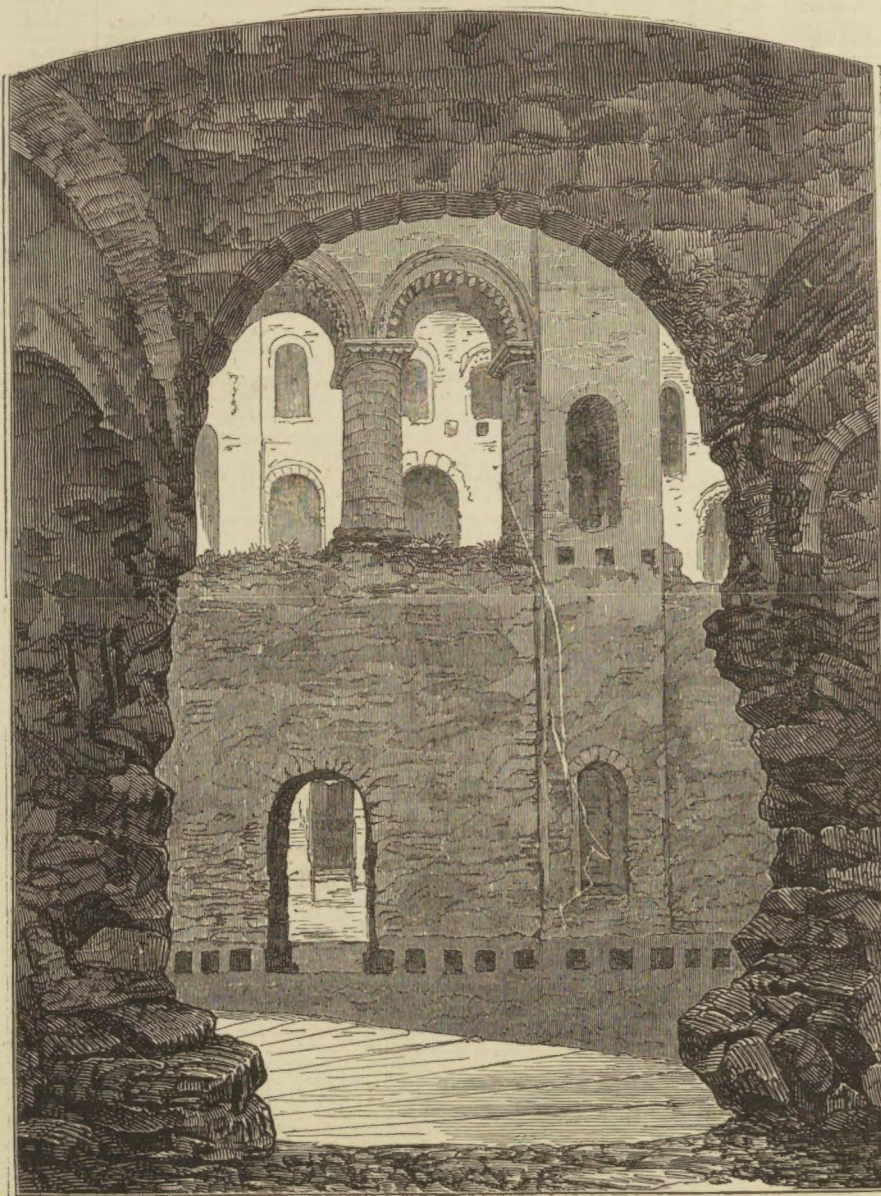
EASTGATE HOUSE, ROCHESTER.

THE tenth annual meeting of the British Archæological Association commenced at Rochester on Monday (last week). The list of patrons was confined to the Lord-Lieutenant of the county (Earl Cowper) and the Bishop of the diocese; but there was a goodly array of vice-presidents—of whom some are working archæologists. The place of meeting on this occasion was well chosen as an archæological centre—furnishing much of the work of the occasion at its heart, and distributing the rest over an area lying within reasonable circumference. At one o'clock there was a meeting at the committee-room at the Guildhall; and at two the members assembled generally in the same place, to hear the President's address.

The President was Mr. Bernal—long the member for the city in which the Association was met; and he delivered a long and elaborate address on the study of archæology and its immediate application, which at once justified the choice of both place and president. The speaker gave a comprehensive sketch of the various objects of interest they had to examine in Rochester and the adjacent district. Of Rochester-bridge (about to give place to a new structure in course of formation by Messrs. Fox and Henderson), he said: "The bridge of Rochester has undergone frequent and considerable mutations. Originally constructed of timber in the reign of King Edgar, it was maintained by Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, and by the contributions of other great owners of lands in the adjoining districts. It was often extensively repaired. In the reign of Richard II. the stone bridge was erected by Sir Robert Knolles and John Lord Cobham, at their own cost. Estates of some value were granted in perpetuity for the repairs and support of the fabric, which was completed between the seventeenth and twenty-second years of Richard II. In the time of Elizabeth an Act of Parliament, the result of a previous commission of inquiry, was obtained, by which two wardens and twelve assistants were directed to be elected annually for the management of the concerns of the bridge; the rental of the estates appropriated thereto being considerable. The record-room, or bridge-chamber, stands near to the east end of the bridge. Underneath the same is the site of a porch of a chapel, or chantry, which was founded by John de Cobham, at the time of the building of the bridge. This chapel, formerly called Allesoven, or All Souls, was intended chiefly for the use of travellers; and three chaplains were appointed to officiate in it, at a salary of £6 each yearly, payable out of the income of the bridge estates.

The address was followed by a paper, read by Dr. Beattie, "On the history of Rochester Castle;" and a visit of inspection to the Castle, under the guidance of Messrs. Ashpitel, Baily, Duesbury, Godwin, and Whichcord.

Mr. Duesbury read a "description of the remains;" and stated, generally, that the space within the walls was usually, in mediæval castles, divided into two courts—the one surrounded by stables and inferior offices, and the other by guard-houses and inferior offices and residences; and that, in the highest and least accessible part of the inclosure, a "keep," or strong tower of ultimate defence was erected. The remains of this castle wall show that it was of great height and strength. "The portion now standing to the south-west (continued Mr. Duesbury) is, I imagine, nearly forty feet high, especially towards the river, which swept round the foot from the bastion, at the south-eastern corner, at the back of the keep, to the sally-port, or strong gate, at the north-west angle, which flanked and commanded the ancient bridge. The entrance from the land side was in the curve of the wall to the north-east. This appears to have had circular bastions at the



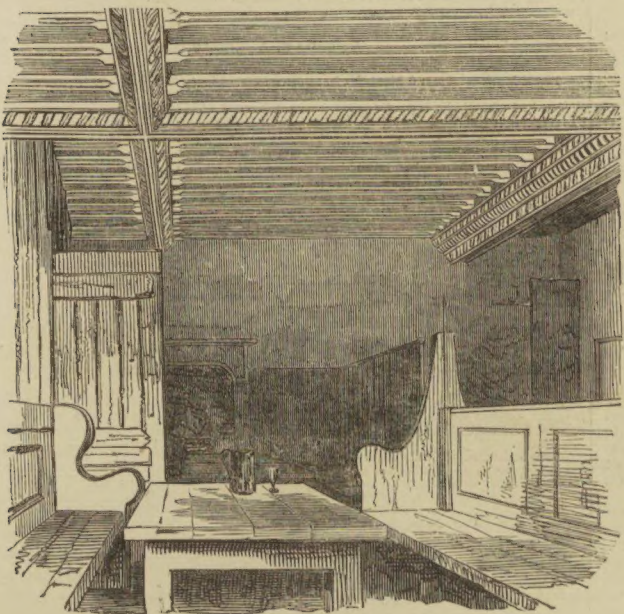
ROCHESTER CASTLE.—ENTRANCE TO THE KEEP.

entrance, with a curtain between. The space inclosed is about four acres. From the earliest ages, even in the time of the original Britons, before the coming of the Romans, this was an important place of defence, and very naturally so, since it guards the pass of the only river between the south coast and the heart of the country. The keep is square on plan, and measures, exclusively of the entrance-tower, about 70 feet each way; there are square towers without buttresses to three of the angles; but the fourth, viz., the north-east one, has a circular tower—this, however, being carried up square at the top. The entrance-tower, about 17 feet by 30 feet, is on the north side. The building has four stories, and is from 105 to 110 feet high to the top of the towers. The middle wall is 5 feet thick, and the outside walls 12 feet thick; the walls are built of rough or unsquared Kentish ragstone, with freestone (oolite) dressings and quoins. In the centre of the division-wall is a well: it is circular, 2 feet 9 inches in diameter, and faced with ashlar all the way down. It is stated to be about 60 feet deep to the water. This building has been a ruin for upwards of 200 years; and a certain Sir Walker Welden, a descendant of Sir Anthony Welden, who lived in James I.'s time, sold the stone steps of the staircase to a mason from London. He wanted to sell the whole building as old material, but fortunately it was not worth the expense of pulling down." Mr. Duesbury took a novel view of the question of the age of the castle; and, considering that "Rochester was a stronghold in the time of the aboriginal Britons; that the Romans had an important station here, and from time to time, during the 400 or 500 years (nearly 500) they were masters of Britain, they walled the city, and built and enlarged the castle, so as to make it a place of exceeding strength and security; and recollecting that, in the Saxon times, Rochester was more known as a castle than a city—Bede calls it, 'the Castle of Kentish men'; and above all, bearing in mind that at this the most important pass in England, a very strong fortress would always to a certainty be maintained," Mr. Duesbury concludes, that Gundulph did not build this tower, and that the present ruin is of Anglo-Roman and Anglo-Saxon workmanship.

As the centre of our group of Illustrations, we have engraved the entrance to Rochester Castle from the ground-floor, showing in the upper part the noble columns and arches of the middle story, and a small portion of the basement chamber.

The chief features of Tuesday's proceedings were the inspection of the Cathedral, when Mr. Ashpitel, who has for several years officiated in this respect for the Association, delivered a discourse on its architecture, and afterwards accompanied a large audience round the building. Mr. Ashpitel confined himself to the history of the architecture of the see of Rochester was founded by Ethelbert in the year 600, and that Justus was the first ordained bishop in 604. From that point to the Conquest there is but one mention of the cathedral—the interment of Bishop Tobias, by Bede.

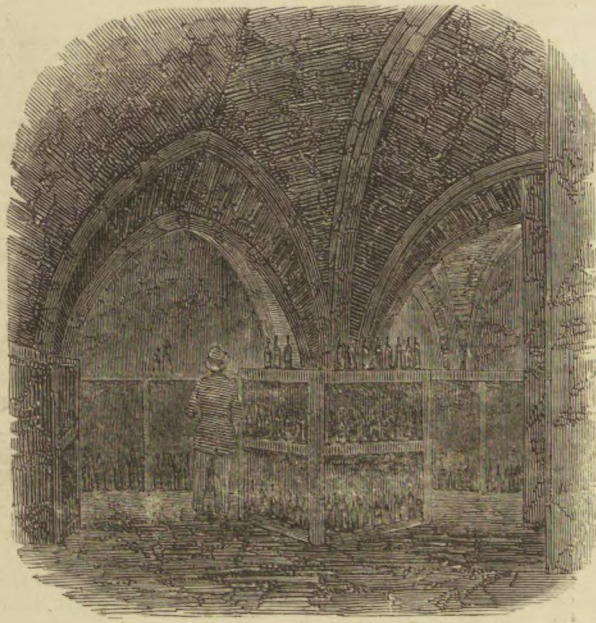
According to one authority, Gundulph rebuilt and perfected the cathedral and its offices; according to others, he died before it was finished, and this work was left to his successor, Eulphus. It is clear from the annals that this latter prelate built the chapter-house, dormitory, and infirmary; and not only is there evidence of the junction of old and new work in the triforium, but the style of the west front corresponds better with that of the chapter-house than the original work of Gundulph. Mr. Ashpitel exhibited a plan, in which was delineated the existing Norman work, and showed that it was possible that the present Gundulph's tower had originally been one of two central towers, open below to the church, and forming a species of transepts, as at the



ROOM IN THE RED LION INN, STROUD.



THE COLLEGE GATE, MAIDSTONE.



VAULTS IN THE CROWN HOTEL, ROCHESTER.

Cathedral of Exeter. In absence of direct evidence it seemed at least to be a probability. The rest of the original plan was made out in the same way. The church was not consecrated till 1183, and in 1188 it was burnt down with all its offices. It seems to have been renovated by Bishop Asselin; when, in 1177, it was burnt down again. In 1215 the city and castle were besieged by King John—both taken, and the church plundered of even the crucifixes. In the meantime a strange event took place. Miracles were said to be worked at the tomb of St. William, an eminent traveller to the Holy Land, who was murdered by his servant for the sake of his money. This news attracted hosts of pilgrims, by whose offerings William De Hoos was enabled to build the whole choir. Mr. Ashpitel then pointed out an error in the reading of the chronicles, and showed that when it was stated that Richard Eastgate had built a north aisle and Richard De Walestone a south aisle—that what was meant was in effect the great cross aisles or transepts, and that the difference in the styles of architecture fully bore out this view. He then gave the authorities which described the works of Humo De Hethe, particularly the raising the tower, and afterwards described the perpendicular chapel of St. Mary, and the clerestory to the nave, which was of the same period.

Mr. W. H. Black fully corroborated Mr. Ashpitel's translation as regarded the transepts.

Mr. Ashpitel's paper was followed, during the day, by visits to several ancient houses and other places of antiquarian interest, in Rochester, including St. Margaret's Church, St. Catherine's and St. Bartholomew's Hospitals, and the Temple Farm-house, near Stroud.

At a meeting in the evening, the following papers were read:—By the Rev. Mr. Hugo, "On the Biographies of Gundulph, Ernulph, and other early Bishops of Rochester, with notices of their Labours in the building of the Cathedral, Castle, &c., from the *Textus Roffensis*, and William of Malmesbury;" by Mr. Essell, "On an Inscribed Stone found in the Medway;" by Mr. Jordan, "On Documents relating to the Spanish Armada and the Defence of the Medway;" by the Rev. Beale Poste, "On the Attack of the Dutch on the Defences of the Medway in 1667;" by Mr. Halliwell, "On Ancient Sports, Pastimes, and Customs of the County of Kent." Mr. Black's discourse, identifying the *Textus Roffensis* as the work of Humphrey, the precentor, was one of the most valuable results of the congress. Mr. Pettigrew read a paper involving very considerable labour and research, on the "Leper Houses of Kent, and their establishment in England;" Mr. Monckton, some observations on Gavel-kind (the Kentish custom of descent to the youngest son); Mr. Steele, an account of the Roman burial-ground at Stroud; and Mr. George Wright, a pleasant paper of associations connected with the well-known church and sea-mark, Reculvers.

Part of Tuesday was devoted to the examination of old houses in Rochester and Stroud, three of which we have engraved. Two of these are, Eastgate-house, in the High-street, Rochester—very picturesque, and possessing some finely-ornamented ceilings; and the Red Lion, at Stroud, with a room remarkable for the size of its beams, which bear evident marks of the Tudor period.

The Crown Inn, Rochester, there is evidence to prove, has portions of the residence of one Symond Poynt, probably built early in the thirteenth century. Passing through a doorway, in the situation of the original entrance from the High-street, and descending a flight of stone steps, you reach a vaulted room, running north and south, about forty feet long, fifteen feet broad, and fifteen feet high: it is vaulted with three bays of vaulting, the arches next the side and end walls springing from flat piers, which project beyond the face of the wall. The transverse and the diagonal-arched ribs spring out of these piers without capitals of any sort. The ribs are of the Keigrae fire-stone, and the filling in of the vaulted ceiling is of squared chalk. On each side of the door from the street is an original window. The crown of the arch of this vaulted storeroom is about eight feet above, and the floor about seven feet below the present level of the street. On the west side of the centre bay is a door, from which an arched passage leads into a second vault about eighteen feet square, the floor being on the same level as the last; but here the height to the crown of the arch is not more than ten feet from the door. This vault has an octagonal column in the centre, so that it is a vault and vaulted in to four bays, and the whole of the details are in accordance with the first-described apartment. The substructure of the "Crown Inn" is a large rambling erection, constructed of timber and plaster, and of later date than the cellars. The arched gateway, with its moulded jambs and carved spandrels, are of the time of Henry VII., and there are to be found some moulded beams and minor details of the same period in other parts of the house. A very interesting paper, by Mr. Bailey, upon the old houses in Kent, was read to the Association, and is reported in the *Builder*, of last week.

Wednesday was the first excursion day, when the places visited by the Association included Hailstow Church, Cowling Castle and Church, Cliffe Church, and Cobham Hall. Shorne Church was in the programme, but was passed for want of time. At Hailstow there is an early font, and in the pavement is part of a fourteenth-century brass of good character. The entrance-gateway to Cowling Castle is especially remarkable for its bold masonry, and for the sculptured charter on the face of one of the towers, with its seal, apparently of bronze.

This was the castellated and moated manor-house of John de Cobham in 1380. Its present owner hospitably entertained a luncheon on the grass, having first taken the party of Archaeologists over the grounds. The church of Cowling Castle has six stone stalls on each side, three sedilia, and a piscina of good Early English work.

The church at Cliffe is of the Decorated period, with some beautiful windows, sedilia, and piscina. On the opposite side is a Perpendicular tomb, or Easter sepulchre. The pulpit has an hour-glass stand dated 1636. The Early English additions to the transepts are curious. On the east wall of the south transept are some mural paintings—"The Last Judgement," &c.—part of which would seem to be as early as the fourteenth century.

The party next went to Cobham Hall, well known to many of our readers. It is a Late Tudor building of brick, with stone dressings, the wings dated 1582 and 1594; the centre, 1602. The music-room, a very lofty and noble apartment, with an over-arched ceiling, is said to be Inigo Jones's work. There is an elaborately-sculptured marble chimney-piece in this room, by Sir R. Westmacott. In the other rooms are some marvellously fine paintings by Van Dyke, Titian, and Guido.

Cobham Church, with its fine early English chancel, Perpendicular sedilia and piscina, beautiful cinque-cento altar-tomb, and unique collection of brasses in memory of the Cobhams, was visited; and the Association returned to Rochester, where they sat down to a public dinner.

On Thursday, a party of the Archaeologists visited Kilsby House. The scene here was striking; the old ruin was scaled by a party of the gentlemen, who ascended by a ladder brought from a neighbouring farm. Around stood a group of the members of the Association, with a few wondering rustics, who seemed astonished why such interest should be attached to a few old stones. One quaintly remarked: "He supposed it was a 'Colty Fair.'" After discussing the probable age and uses of such remains, the party moved from the picturesque scene, and entered the vehicles for Sandling and Allington Castle. Most of the party, having ridden some distance, alighted, and walked to Sandling, through a pleasantly-shaded, but rather damp pathway. Having inspected this place, they arrived on foot at Allington Castle. These ruins attracted much attention from all; and the beauty of the day added much to the beauty of the dignified mouldering walls. Moving away from this, the party crossed the Medway in a ferry-boat, to the inn known as Gibraltar; here they partook of an excellent cold collation. This point being as rigidly discussed as any other, the party lounged away an agreeable half-hour on the seats by the edge of the water; after which, they again reached their carriages, and proceeded to Aylesford Church and Preston-park.

Friday was also devoted to a tour of antiquarian investigation. After inspecting the scanty remains of Boxley Abbey, the Archaeologists proceeded to Maidstone, where they were received at the Guildhall by the Mayor and Aldermen, headed by Mr. Bernal, and partook of luncheon. After inspecting the church, the Archaeologists proceeded to the College remains, which consist of a range of rooms with tower in the Perpendicular style, supposed to have been kitchens and priests' lodgings, the master's house, and a large gateway tower. A considerable portion, which had become ruinous, was pulled down so recently as 1845. One of the rooms has lately been put to a very excellent use, an ornithological museum having been placed in it. A pleasant drive of a few miles conducted the Archaeologists to the little village of Hollingbourne, where are the remains of some earth-works, in the nature of a fortified camp, indistinctly traced, which the tradition of the neighbourhood ascribes to Belegist. At five o'clock the Archaeologists proceeded to dine at Leeds Castle, the seat of Mr. C. Wykeham Martin, F.R.S.

At eight p.m., the Archaeologists returned to Maidstone, where an evening meeting was held in the Assembly Rooms. Papers were read by Mr. Planche on the Earls of Kent; by Mr. Whichcord, on the Polyphony of the Middle Ages, illustrated by reference to the tomb of the founder of All Saints' Church, Maidstone; by Mr. J. Brent, on the ancient Guilds and Fraternities of Canterbury; by Mr. Lukis, on Cromlechs, illustrated by those on Blue-Bell-hill; and by the Rev. Beale Poste, on the Sea Myths of Kent. The long and laborious day was closed by the return to Rochester, where the party did not arrive until a very late hour.

The members of the Association breakfasted together at the Crown Inn at ten on Saturday morning, after which the concluding meeting was held. Votes of thanks were passed to Mr. Bernal (president of the Association), to the Bishop and clergy of the diocese, to the nobility and gentry of the county, who had facilitated the objects of the Association, and to the official managers and local committee.

SHIPS CARRYING LETTERS TO SAIL THIS MONTH.—For Sydney N.S.W., the *Waterloo*, from Portsmouth, 22nd; for New Zealand, the *Carnatic*, from East India Docks, 25th. Four ships have sailed during the week, carrying similar mails.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

BRIGHTON RACES.—WEDNESDAY.

The following details of the sport sufficiently indicate the interest and importance which attach to the proceedings. The weather was warm and sunny, and the attendance of "book-makers" and general company was very numerous. On the stand and in the enclosure, we noticed many of the most influential and aristocratic patrons of the turf. Since last year, several improvements have been effected on the course. The wires of the Electric Telegraph Company are, for the first time here, extended to the grand stand.

Trials.—Snowdon Dunhill, 1. Pharos, 2.

Second Year of the First Brighton Biennial Stakes.—Sittingbourne, 1. Catherine Hayes, 2.

Brighton Stakes.—Pantomime, 1. Adine, 2.

Marine Plate.—The Heriot, 1. Puritan, 2.

Brighton Nursery Stakes.—Cyrus, 1. Sine-quas-non, 2.

Railway Plate.—Perfidious, 1. Mrs. Nutting, 2.

Town Plate.—Maldstone, 1. Himalaya, 2.

Grand Stand Plate.—Hungerford, 1. Sandhurst, 2.

Licensed Victuallers' Plate.—Tomboy, 1. Antigone and Musican ran a dead heat for second.

Brighton Cup.—Ariosto, 1. Harbinger, 2.

Second Biennial Stakes.—King Tom, 1. Student, 2.

Pavilion Plate.—Madame Laudeau, 1. Hambletonian, 2.

Sussex Plate.—Nightshade, 1. Jessamine, 2.

THURSDAY.

Grand Stand Plate.—Hungerford, 1. Sandhurst, 2.

Licensed Victuallers' Plate.—Tomboy, 1. Antigone and Musican ran a dead heat for second.

Brighton Cup.—Ariosto, 1. Harbinger, 2.

Second Biennial Stakes.—King Tom, 1. Student, 2.

Pavilion Plate.—Madame Laudeau, 1. Hambletonian, 2.

Sussex Plate.—Nightshade, 1. Jessamine, 2.

THURSDAY EVENING.—Nothing doing at Tattersall's. On the course at Brighton King Tom was backed freely at 20 to 1 for the Derby.

CRICKET.

ELVEN OF ENGLAND v. TWENTY-TWO OF ZINGARI.—This match was concluded on Tuesday, thus:—England, first innings, 39; second, 70; total, 109. Zingari, first innings, 200. Winning in one innings.

FOUR OF ALL ENGLAND v. FOUR OF SURREY.—This exciting and novel match was played on Tuesday and Wednesday, at the Oval, Kennington, where a large number of persons had assembled to look at the novelty of a first-class single wicket match. It will be seen that England won by eight runs. England, in their first innings, made 31 runs; and the second only 1: in all, 32. Surrey, in their first innings made on 14; and in the second, 10: in all, 24.

PUBLIC SCHOOL MATCHES.—This year the Harrow and the Winchester were both victors over the Eton.

DOGGETT'S COAT AND BADGE.—On Monday the above boat-race took place, over the usual distance. There were six competitors, and they came in as follows:—Fennis (Tower), 1; Kilsby (Bankside), 2; Beckett (Old Barge House), 3; Babbington (Horselydown), 4; Barratt (Old Barge House), 5; Davies (Batterssea), 6.

ROWING.—CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE THAMES.—On Wednesday four gentlemen (Mr. James Paine, Mr. Rippington, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Nottidge), contended for this honorary distinction—the distance being from Putney to Kew-bridge. Mr. J. Paine was the winner; Mr. Rippington, 2; Mr. Nottidge, 3; and Mr. Smith, 4.

ITINERANT LITERATURE.—A spirited bookseller in Manchester, following the "signs of the times," has set up a perambulating book store. A capacious caravan, like those in which itinerant lions and elephants are wont to traverse the country in search of fairs, has been constructed, with shelves capable of holding 2000 volumes, and stowage for a considerable quantity. A tent is carried for the accommodation of his customers; and spreading this in the town, he offers a shady lounge and a temporary reading-room to the scattered population. This is certainly an odd development of the trade of literature. What the thing of which we have here a first glimpse will come to, no one can well say. We all recollect that railway literature began with the news-boy.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Owing to the warlike tone of the advices received this week from Constantinople, and the heavy sales of stock effected almost daily, together with the continuous shipments of bullion to the Continent and elsewhere, the market for national securities has been very depressed, and prices have fallen fully $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent; the Three per Cents for Money having been done as low as 97 $\frac{1}{2}$, the lowest range during the whole of the present year.

The demand for money for commercial purposes has greatly increased; hence the rate of discount upon first-class paper out of doors has advanced to $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. In Lombard-street, the discount houses have raised their rate for money on "call" to $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. This state of things may, in a great measure, be accounted for by the extraordinary activity of our import and export trade, and also by the steadily improved demand at home for food and clothing.

Notwithstanding that the imports of gold during the present year have been greatly in excess of most corresponding periods, the stock of that metal in the Bank of England is still declining. The fact is that the Australian gold is purchased immediately on arrival, and shipped to France, after having been melted; consequently, it has not of late entered into the Bank accounts. The imports, this week, have been about £300,000 from Australia; 720,000 dollars from New York, and 700,000 dollars from Mexico, the West Indies, &c.

The propositions made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in reference to the dissentient holders of South Sea Stock, have been taken advantage of by a portion of the *Bear* party; but we can see no positive reason why the propositions in question should have had any effect upon the price of Consols.

On Monday, Bank Stock was done at 228. The Three per Cents Reduced were 98 $\frac{1}{2}$; the Three per Cent Consols, 97 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 98 $\frac{1}{2}$; the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 101 $\frac{1}{2}$; India Bonds, £1000, 228; Exchequer Bills, par to 28 discount. South Sea Stock was marked 116. The market, both on Tuesday and Wednesday, was heavy and drooping, with very few money purchasers. On Thursday, there was rather more firmness apparent in the early part of the day, and the Three per Cents, for Money, were done at 97 $\frac{1}{2}$; but they closed at 97 $\frac{1}{2}$. The Three per Cents Reduced were 98 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 99; and the New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 101 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 102. India Bonds were 208. Exchequer Bills marked 38 discount to par. Long Annuities sold at 55.

The East India Directors have raised the rate for bills on India $\frac{1}{2}$ per rupee. The present rate on Bengal and Madras is 2s. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; and on Bombay, 2s. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

The Continental exchanges are still unfavourable. Their effect is evident, from notice having been issued by the Mint authorities in Paris, to the effect that the period for the re-delivery of coin for bullion is now extended to fifty-three days.

There has been a small arrival of silver on account of the Dividends; nevertheless, Mexican Bonds have been heavy, at 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 27. Most other foreign securities have met a very dull market. Brazilian Four-and-a-Half per Cents have marked 99 $\frac{1}{2}$; Dutch Four per Cents, 98 to 98 $\frac{1}{2}$; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 94; Russian Five per Cents, 118; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 101 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, Small, 102; Sardinian Five per Cents, 95 $\frac{1}{2}$; Spanish Old Three per Cents, 47 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, New Deferred Three per Cents, 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 30; Ditto, Passive Bonds (converted), 51; the Committee's Certificates, 63 to 64 per cent; Swedish Four per Cents, 1 prem.; Danish Five per Cents, 106; Grenada Bonds, Deferred, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$; Portuguese, Four per Cents, 48 to 49 ex div.

The amount of business doing in Miscellaneous Securities has been comparatively trifling. In some instances prices have given way: Australian Agricultural having fallen to 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 33 $\frac{1}{2}$; American Land, 64 to 66. The securities most in request have been Bank Shares. Transactions have taken place in Hungerford Bridge at 12; Waterloo, 5; Vauxhall, 24; Albion Insurance have been 95; Atlas, 22 $\frac{1}{2}$; Argus, 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ ex div.; County, 121; Eagle, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$; European Life, 20 $\frac{1}{2}$; General, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$; Globe, 149 to 150 ex div.; Guardian, 60 ex div.; Law Fire, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ ex div.; Ditto, Life, 56; Pelican, 45; Phoenix, 185; Rock Life, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$; Sun Life, 65; Kenton Water-works, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$; East London, 128; Grand Junction, 73 $\frac{1}{2}$; Berlin, 84 $\frac{1}{2}$; Souhark and Vauxhall, 88; West Middlesex, 113 $\frac{1}{2}$ ex div.; St. Katharine Dock, 92 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 100 $\frac{1}{2}$; African steam ship, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$; Canada Company's Bonds, 72 ex div.; Ditto, Six per Cent Bonds, 116; Ditto, 114 $\frac{1}{2}$ ex div.; Crystal Palace, 7 to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ex new; City Navigation Bonds, 95 $\frac{1}{2}$; General Steam Navigation, 51; Hudson's Bay, 224; Netherlands Land, 34; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 77; Reversionary Interest Society, 106.

The total amount of the several stocks which have been accepted by holders of South Sea Annuities is £1,297,287 19s. viz.: £103,398 16s. 6d. in the Three-and-a-Half per Cents; £1,188,618 4s. 3d. in the Two-and-a-Half per Cents; and £2370 18s. 4d. in Exchequer Bonds. The above, added to the amount accepted at the Bank of England, gives a gross total of £3,006,232 5s. 2d.

The market for Railway Shares has been exceedingly inactive, at dropping prices. It is considered, however, that the quantity of stock in the hands of the jobbers is by no means large. We may announce the important fact that the Directors of the East India Company have guaranteed $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent interest on £8,000,000 sterling for the completion of the line from Calcutta to Delhi. The following are the closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston Junction, 68; Bristol and Exeter, 102 $\frac{1}{2}$; Caledonian, 67; Dublin and Belfast Junction, 48; Eastern Counties, 123; East Lancashire, 73; Great Northern, 85; Great Western, 89 $\frac{1}{2}$; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 73; Ditto, Fifths, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$; Leeds Northern, 15; London and Blackwall, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$; London and Brighton, 103 ex div.; London and North-Western, 114; Ditto, £10 shares, M. and B. C., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, Eighthths, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$; London and South-

Western, 89; Midland, 70 $\frac{1}{2}$; North British, 53; North Staffordshire, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 51; Shrewsbury and Birmingham, 61 $\frac{1}{2}$; South-Eastern, 70 $\frac{1}{2}$; South Wales, 36; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 69; Ditto, Extension, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$; York and North Midland, 59.

Lines Leased at Fixed Rentals.—Buckinghamshire, 109; Manchester, Buxton, and Matlock, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$; Northern and Eastern, 65.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Aberdeen, No. 2, Seven per Cent, 87 $\frac{1}{2}$; Caledonian, 107; Eastern Counties No. 2, 13 pm; Ditto, Six per Cent Stock, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$; Eastern Union, Six per Cent, 20 $\frac{1}{2}$; Great Northern, Five per Cent, 129 $\frac{1}{2}$; Ditto, Five per Cent, redeemable at Ten per Cent prem., 113; Ditto, Four-and-a-Half per Cent Scrip, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$; London and Brighton, New, guaranteed Six per Cent, 150 ex div.; Londonderry and Coleraine, Half Shares, 99; Midland, Consolidated Six per Cent, 149 $\frac{1}{2}$ ex div.; North British, 116 $\frac{1}{2}$; York and North Midland, H. and S. Purchase, 10.

FOREIGN.—Beliers and Grasse, 74; East Indian, 25; Ditto, Extension, 24; Grand Junction of France, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$; Northern of France, 34 $\frac{1}{2}$; Paris and Lyons, 26 $\frac{1}{2}$; Paris and Strasbourg, 36 $\frac{1}{2}$; Sambre and Meuse, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$; South-Eastern of France, 23; Upper India Scrip, 4 prem.

Mining Shares have commanded very little attention. On Thursday, Agua Fria were done at 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2; Anglo Californian, 3; Ave Maria, 4; British Australian Gold, 6; Imperial Brazilian (Cocoe and Cuaba), 24; Colonial Gold, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2; Great Nugget Vein, Scrip, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 3; Lake Bathurst, 4 to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$; Linares, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2; Nouveau Monde, 13; Port Phillip, 4 to 5; United Mexican, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$.

At the meeting of the Bank Directors, on Thursday, the propriety of further raising the rate of discount was discussed. The meeting, however, broke up without any change being announced.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—The quantity of English wheat received up to our market, this week, coastwise and by land carriage, has been very moderate. Essex samples have sold steadily, at an advance of 2s. per quarter; but Kent qualities have given way in value 1s. The imports of foreign wheat have been extensive, but articles have moved off slowly, on former terms. Floating cargoes having been held at old quotations. There has been only a moderate inquiry for barley, on former terms. Malt has realised extreme rates. Oats have ruled a shade lower. In the value of beans, peas, and flour, no change has taken place.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 50s. to 52s.; ditto, white, 52s. to 54s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 48s. to 50s.; ditto, white, 50s. to 52s.; rye, 28s. to 31s.; graining barley, 28s. to 31s.; dismilling ditto, 28s. to 31s.; mulling ditto, 28s. to 31s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 52s. to 54s.; brown ditto, 48s. to 50s.; Kingston and Ware, 57s. to 60s.; Chevalier, 61s. to 63s.; York, 55s. and Lincolnshire feed oats, 28s. to 29s.; potato ditto, 23s. to 27s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 19s. to 22s.; ditto, white, 20s. to 24s.; tick beans, new, 36s. to 38s.; ditto, old, 38s. to 40s.; grey peas, 33s. to 35s.; maple, 35s. to 38s.; white, 38s. to 41s.; boliers, 40s. to 43s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 45s. to 50s.; Suffolk, 38s. to 40s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 38s. to 42s. per 280 lbs. Foreign.—French flour, 37s. to 42s. per sack; American, 23s. to 25s. per barrel.

Seeds.—New rapeseed has appeared on sale, and realised £26 to £27 per last. A few parcels of new caraway have, likewise, been on offer. The general demand is inactive; but we have no change to notice in prices.

Linseed.—English, sowing, 41s. to 42s.; Baltic crushing, 47s. to 50s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 48s. to 49s.; hempseed, 38s. to 42s. per quarter; Coriander, 12s. to 14s. per cwt. Brown mustard-seed, 8s. to 11s.; white ditto, 7s. to 9s.; and tares, 4s. to 6s. 6d. per bushel. English rapeseed new, £21 to £24 per last of ten quarters. Linseed cakes, English, 45s. 10s. to 410 5s.; ditto, foreign, 38s. 6d. to 410 5s. per ton. Rape cakes, 45s. to 455s. per ton. Canary, 40s. to 42s. per quarter. English broad, red, 42s. to 43s.; white ditto, 44s. to 45s. per cwt.

Bread.—The prices of wheat flour in the metropolis are from 5s. to 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ s. of household ditto, 6d. to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per 4 lbs. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Average.—Wheat, 52s. 7d.; barley, 29s. 7d.; oats, 22s. 2d.; rye, 36s. 3d.; beans, 40s. 6d.; peas, 36s. 3d.

The *Six Weeks' Average*.—Wheat, 49s. 4d.; barley, 29s. 4d.; oats, 20s. 11d.; rye, 34s. 7d.; beans, 43s. 3d.; peas, 36s. 6d.

Duties.—Wheat, 1s.; barley, 1s.; oats, 1s.; rye, 1s.; beans, 1s.; peas, 1s.

Tea.—A moderate business is doing in this article, at last week's currency. Common sound congou, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. Up to Saturday last, duty was paid on 25,761,016 lbs., against 24,897,227 ditto, in 1852.

Sugar.—For most kinds of raw sugar we have had only a moderate inquiry, and, in some instances, the quotations have had a downward tendency. Fine yellow Barbadoes has changed hands at from 57s. to 58s.; middling to good, 54s. to 56s. 6d.; low, 53s. 6d. to 54s.; middling to fine, 51s. to 52s.; fine yellow Mauritius, 36s. to 37s.; low to good, 33s. 6d. to 35s. 6d.; middling to fine, 32s. 6d. to 33s.; fine white Menares, 38s. 6d. to 39s. 6d.; low to good, 36s. 6d. to 38s.; middling to fine, 32s. 6d. to 33s. 6d. per cwt. Foreign sugars are steady. Refined goods are in fair request, at 46s. for brown, and 48s. 6d. to 49s. 6d. for white. Crushed is selling at from 31s. to 31s. 6d. The total clearances to the 30th ult. were 3,699,676 cwt., against 3,548,983 ditto, in 1852.

Coffee.—Fine plantation kinds have sold somewhat readily, at full prices. Otherwise, the market is by no means active. Good ordinary native Ceylon is quoted at from 46s. to 47s. per cwt.

Rice.—This article is in improved request, at the extreme rates paid last week.

Provisions.—There has been rather an extensive business doing in Irish butter, the prices of which have advanced 2s. to 3s. per cwt. Cork, 93s. to 94s.; Linerick, 88s. to 90s.; Carlow, 88s. to 91s. per cwt. Foreign butter is 2s. to 4s. dearer. Fine Friesland has advanced to 105s. per cwt. English steady, at 58s. to 102s. for fine weekly Dorset, and 10s. to 12s. for fresh. There is more doing in Lard, the value of which has risen 1s. to 2s. per cwt. Most other kinds of provisions support late rates.

Tallow.—The transactions in this article have been devoid of interest. P.Y.C., on the spot, is quoted at from 51s. to 51s. 6d.; and for del very during the last three months, 50s. 6d. to 50s. 9d. to 51s. per cwt. Town tallow, 49s. to 50s. net cash; rough fat, 2s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Oils.—Lined oil is at from 12s. 6d. to 13s. per cwt. Common fish-oils are dull, but not cheaper. Turpentine is inactive at 46s. for spirits, 45s. in puncheons, and 10s. for rough. Stockholm tar has advanced to 18s. 6d. per barrel.

Spirits.—All kinds of rum are in active request, at somewhat dearer. Proof Lowlands, 2s. 0d. to 2s. 1d.; East India, 1s. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 2s. 0d. per gallon. There is more doing in brandy, at very full prices. Sales of Cognac: best brands of 1851, 7s. 10d. to 8s. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; 1850, 7s. 11d. to 8s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; 1849, 6s. 8d. to 8s. 2d. per gallon. Geneva and corn spirits command very full prices.

Hay and Straw.—Old meadow hay, 41s. to 45s. 17s. 6d.; new ditto, 42s. 10s. to 44s. 0s.; old clover, 42s. 10s. to 46s. 6s., new ditto, 43s. 10s. to 45s. 0s.; and straw, 11s. to 12s. 17s. per load.

Cattle.—Adair's West, 10s.; Carr's Hartley, 17s. 6d.; Chester Man, 16s. 6d.; Hastings's Hartley, 17s. 6d.; Holywell, 18s. 6d.; Tanfield Moor, 15s. 6d.; West Hartley, 17s. 6d.; Belmont, 17s. 6d. per cwt.

Hops.—The show of samples continues very limited, and the demand is steady, at full prices. Duty, 140,000. Mid and East Kent pockets, 120s. to 180s.; Weald of Kent, 128s. to 140s.; Sussex, 110s. to 120s. per cwt.

Wool.—The public sales are progressing steadily, and above 40,000 bales have now been disposed of. The imports have been seasonably good.

Potatoes.—Although the accounts from various parts of the country state that the disease has presented itself, the supplies of potatoes are very large, and of good quality. An extensive business is doing, at from 3s. to 6s. per cwt.

Smithfield.—Beasts, the supplies of which have been very extensive, have sold slowly, at a decline of fully 2d. per 8 lb. Sheep and lambs have commanded full quotations; but the value of calves has given way 2d. per 8 lb. In pigs, very little has been doing. Beef, from 3s. to 4s. 6d.; mutton, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 0d.;

THE SLAVES OF VIRGINIA.

(From the Note-book of an American Tourist.)

THE habitations of the slaves of Virginia are usually log-cabins, of various degrees of comfort and commodiousness. At one end there is a great open fireplace, which is exterior to the wall of the house, being made of clay in an enclosure, about eight feet square and high, of logs. The chimney is sometimes of brick, but more commonly of lath or splint sticks, laid up like log-work, and plastered with mud. They enjoy great blazing fires, and as the common fuel is pitch pine, the cabin, at night, when the door is open, seen from a distance, appears like a fierce furnace. The chimneys often catch fire, and the cabin is destroyed. Very little precaution is taken against this danger; it does not cost much to build a cabin; timber is yet in the way, and they are aghast to find a use for it in Virginia. Several cabins are placed near together, and they are called "the quarters." On a plantation of moderate size there will be but one "quarters." The situation chosen for it has reference to convenience of obtaining water from springs, and fuel from the woods. On the James River plantations, larger houses, boarded and made ornamental, are more common. In these eight families, each having a distinct sleeping-room and lock-up closets, and every two having a common kitchen or living-room, are accommodated. The single people of the plantation are all attached to some of the families, and live in the cabins with them. Generally the cabins of the slaves that I have looked into have been neat and well furnished, and have had an aspect of cheerfulness and comfort that I have rarely found in the dwellings of the poor labouring peasantry of any other part of the world. They are far superior to huts in the Highlands of Scotland, in which I have found living very intelligent and well-informed people.

Formerly, I am told, the slaves were accustomed to recreate themselves in the evening and on holidays in dancing. It was at length, however, preached against, and all the "professors" so generally used their influence against it, as an immoral practice, that it has generally gone "out of fashion;" and in place of it the young ones have contracted a love of gaming and worse occupations for the pastime of their holidays and leisure hours. I have not seen any dancing during their holidays, nor any amusement engaged in by the blacks that was not essentially dissipating or wasteful.

The general allowance of food to a slave is a peck and a half of meal and three pounds of bacon a week. This is as much meal as they can eat; but they would be glad to have more bacon. Sometimes they do have four pounds, but it is oftener that they get less than three. It is distributed to them on Saturday nights; or, on the better-managed plantations on Wednesday, to prevent their using it extravagantly, or selling it for whisky, on Sunday. The distribution is called the "drawing," and is made by the overseer to all the heads of families, or single negroes. Except on the smallest plantations, where the cooking is done in the house of the proprietor, there is a cook-house, furnished with a large copper for boiling, and an oven. Every night the negroes take their "mess" for the next day's breakfast and dinner; including not only their meal for bread, and their bacon, but whatever they choose to provide otherwise for themselves—fowls, eggs, and vegetables—to the cook, to be prepared for the next day. Custom varies as to the time it is served to them: sometimes at morning and noon; at other times at noon and night. Each man marks his meat by cuts, so that he shall know it from the rest; and they observe each other's rights with regard to this punctiliously. Suppose breakfast is eaten early in the morning, at sunrise (or a little before in winter, and perhaps a little later in summer), they go to the fields. But frequently they have breakfast in the fields, leaving their work for the purpose at about eight o'clock. At noon dinner is brought to them, and, unless the work presses, they are allowed two hours' rest. Very punctually at sunset they stop work and are at liberty, except that a squad is detached once a week for shelling corn to go to the mill for the next week's drawing of meal. It is but a short job. They work in the field about eleven hours a day on an average. Returning to the cabins, wood "ought to have been" carted for them—it is, commonly, perhaps—but if not, they then go to the wood and *toke* it for themselves. They then make a fire, a very great blazing fire at this season, for the supply of fuel is unlimited, and cook their own supper, which is generally a bit of bacon fried, often with eggs, Indian meal cake, baked in the "spider" after the bacon, to absorb the fat, and, perhaps, some sweet potatoes, roasted in the ashes. Immediately after supper they go to sleep, often lying on the floor or a bench, in preference to a bed. About two o'clock they very generally rise, and cook, or eat cold, what they call their "mornin' bit," then sleep again till breakfast.

I think they generally have plenty to eat; probably are fed better than the proletarian class of any other part of the world. I think that they generally save from their ration of meal. A planter having, I suppose, fifty slaves, told me that commonly as much as five bushels of meal was sent to town by his hands every week, to be sold for them. Upon inquiry, he almost always found that it belonged to only two or three individuals, who had traded for it with the rest; he added, that too often the exchange was for whisky, which, as it was contrary to his rules, they procured of low shopmen, and kept concealed. They were very fond of whisky, and sometimes much injured themselves by the free use of it. To show me how well they were supplied with eggs, he told me that once a vessel came to anchor, becalmed, off his place, and the captain came to him and asked leave to purchase some eggs of his people. He gave him permission, and called the cook to collect them for him. The cook asked how many he should bring. "Oh! all you can get," he answered; and she returned, after a time, with several boys assisting her; she had found nearly two bushels, all the property of the negroes, and which they were willing to sell at four cents a dozen. This planter explained to me that it was very bad economy, not to allow an abundant supply of food to his "force." The negroes were very fond of good living, and, if not well provided for, knew well enough how to provide for themselves. It was, also, but simple policy to have them well lodged and clothed.

Impudence is generally considered in Virginia a natural trait of African character; and by none is it more so than by the negroes themselves. I think this is a mistake. Negroes, as far as I have observed at the north, although suffering from the contamination of habits acquired by themselves or their fathers in slavery, unless they are intemperate, are more provident than whites of equal educational ad-

vantages; much more so than the newly-arrived Irish, though the Irish are soon infected with the desire of accumulating wealth and acquiring permanent means of comfort. This opinion is confirmed by the experience of the city missionaries, one of whom has informed me that where the very poorest classes of New York reside, black and white in the same house, the rooms occupied by the blacks are generally much less bare of furniture, and the means of subsistence better than those of the whites.

I observed that the negroes themselves follow the notion of the whites in Virginia, and look upon the people of their race as naturally unfitted to provide for themselves far ahead. Accustomed, like children, to have all their wants provided for, their whole energies and powers of mind are habitually given to obtaining the means of temporary ease and enjoyment. Their masters, and the lower order of whites, acquire somewhat of the same habits from early association with them, and by constant practices encourage it. The negroes depend much for the means of enjoying themselves upon presents. Their good-natured masters (and their masters are very good-natured, though capricious and quick-tempered) like to gratify them, and are ashamed to disappoint them—to be thought penurious. So it follows that with the free negroes habit is upon them: the habits of their associates, slaves, make the custom of society—that strongest of agents upon weak minds. The whites think improvidence a natural defect of character with them—expect it of them: as they grow old, or as they lose easy means of gaining a livelihood, charitably furnish it to them: expect them to pilfer; do not look upon it as a crime—if they do, at least, consider them but slightly to blame; and so every influence of association is unfavourable to providence, forethought, or economy.

CURIOUS PHENOMENON.—A letter recently received from Athens contains the following:—"A very curious phenomenon has in a great measure removed the fears which were entertained of the failure of the crop of currants. For the last six weeks the disease had re-appeared, and in a short time all the fruit was covered with a white blight, the precursor of its complete destruction. Suddenly, myriads of small green insects, which came no one knows from whence, settled on the vines, and whole vineyards were in a short space of time completely cleared of the white blight by those insects, which devoured the white substance with the greatest avidity, and soon restored the fruit to its natural colour. Let savans and naturalists explain this phenomenon if they can."

UNITY FIRE ASSOCIATION, BIRMINGHAM.

THE celebration of the laying the foundation or inscription-stone of this building having been fixed for Wednesday, a large number of gentlemen, including deputations from London, Liverpool, Nottingham, Sheffield, Manchester, Southampton, Bradford, Norwich, &c., assembled shortly after twelve o'clock in the Town-hall, where a very elegant luncheon was served, and the Company for some time amused by performances on the magnificent organ.

About half-past one o'clock a procession was formed, and, preceded by the new engine of the Company, decorated with flowers and evergreens, and their brigade men, proceeded to the site of the intended building, which was gaily decorated with flags, evergreens, &c., a large marquee being erected for the accommodation of the ladies, of whom there could not have been less than 700 or 800 present—the company numbering about 2000. The procession, on entering, was received with loud cheers; the band of the 13th Light Dragoons playing the National Anthem.

Dr. Lloyd, on behalf of the London board, having explained the objects of the association, and requested the Mayor to lay the first stone,

The Mayor, Henry Hawkes, Esq., said he accepted the invitation with great pleasure, believing that the Unity Fire Insurance Institution was likely to be highly beneficial, not only to the proprietors, but to the public generally. He was glad to see that in the list of 4000 shareholders there were 600 or 700 in Birmingham, including many of their first manufacturers and commercial men, feeling that the principles on which the institution was founded were sound and just, as giving the insured and the insurers alike an interest in its prosperity. He felt, also, irrespective of all other considerations, that the borough was deeply indebted to the Association for introducing into it an additional efficient brigade of firemen and engines, with a view of protecting the property of the inhabitants from the ravages of fire, altogether regardless of the fact whether they were connected with the institution or not. Looking at the number of his townsmen connected with the institution, the importance of its objects, and the principles upon which it was founded, he felt that he should be best serving the inhabitants of Birmingham in endeavouring to promote its prosperity; and he therefore at once accepted with alacrity the duty of laying the foundation-stone of the new buildings when requested to do so (Cheers). He looked upon that as a most auspicious day for the interests of the borough of Birmingham; and in laying the foundation-stone of the new building, he trusted the proceedings would be productive of honour to the Directors, prosperity and satisfaction to the Association, and to the benefit of the public at large (Cheers).

The stone having been lowered into its place with due form, Mr. Collins, the Chairman of the Birmingham Board of Directors, then presented to the Mayor various rolls of vellum, on which were emblazoned the objects of the Institution, the names of the members of the Corporation of Birmingham, and of the Directors and officers of the institution, &c., which were placed in a glass bottle, and deposited in a cavity of the stone, over which was fixed a brass inscription-plate.

The stone having been declared to be duly laid, three hearty cheers were given for the success of the institution; the band again playing "God Save the Queen." The company were then addressed upon the advantages of the establishment, by Mr. Smith, of Liverpool; Mr. Barrett, of Southampton; Mr. W. Parsons, of Nottingham; Mr. Ald. Beaumont, of Bradford; and Mr. White, of Norwich; each of these gentlemen bearing testimony to the successful progress of the Unity Office in their respective towns, had subscribed 23,189 shares. The board had also issued 368 policies, insuring property to the amount of £151,401; and, notwithstanding they had in their neighbourhood one or two giant offices of great standing, he had no doubt the Unity would take a fair and commanding position within twelve months.

Major Story having thanked the ladies for their attendance, and Mr. Collins the Major for the honour he had conferred upon the institution, by assisting at the ceremony, the band once more played the National Anthem, and the proceedings terminated with three hearty cheers.

In the evening, the Directors and their friends, to the number of about 150, dined together at the Queen's Hotel, when a number of appropriate toasts were drunk and responded to; the health of Mr. Thomas Hutchinson Baylis, the manager and founder of the Institution, being received with cheers, which lasted some minutes. The company did not separate till a late hour.

The combination of interest which has led to the formation of the railway system, our joint-stock banks, and other great commercial undertakings, is now being brought to bear on Fire Insurance. The success of most of the older Fire Insurance Corporations has been achieved with an unknown and

(Continued on page 84)

AMUSEMENTS, &c.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE, Oxford-street.—Under the Management of Mr. CHARLES KEAN.—SABINE PAULINE will be performed EVERY EVENING during the week, with other Entertainment, according to the bills of the day. MACBETH will be repeated (for the 53rd time) on WEDNESDAY week, August 17th.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC.—It is respectfully announced that the whole of the Views of the Ascent have been entirely REPAINTED on new canvases, by Mr. WILLIAM BEVELEY, the subjects of colour remaining the same. They will be exhibited, on and after MONDAY, AUGUST 1, every Evening, at 8 o'clock, except Saturday. Stalls, 3s. (which can be secured at the Box-office every day from 11 till 4) Area, 2s.; gallery, 1s. A Morning Performance every Tuesday and Saturday, at 3 o'clock.—EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY.

OCEAN MAIL.—The additional picture of CONSTANTINOPLE is exhibited immediately preceding the Diorama of the OCEAN MAIL (via the Cape) to INDIA and GOLD FIELDS of AUSTRALIA, daily, at Three and Eight. Admission: 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Reserved Seats, 3s. Children, half-price.—ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S PARK.—The Collection of LIVING ZOOPTERES, MOLLUSCA, FISH, and other Marine Animals, is now OPEN to Visitors. The Band of the First Life Guards will perform, by permission of Colonel Hall, every Saturday, at Four o'clock. Admission, One Shilling; Mondays, Sixpence.

ZULU KAFIRS.—In consequence of the increasing interest excited by this extraordinary and pleasing EXHIBITION, arrangements have been made by which visitors will be allowed to see this interesting Tribe daily, from Twelve till One o'clock. Admission, 1s. The performance in the Theatre will take place at Half-past Three and Half-past Eight. Reserved Stalls may be secured at Mr. MITCHELL'S Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street.—ST. GEORGE'S GALLERY, HYDE-PARK CORNER, near Grosvenor-place.

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DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, consisting of more than 700 Models, is NOW OPEN at the PORTLAND GALLERY, REGENT-STREET, opposite the POLYTECHNIC, every day except Friday, from Eleven till Five, and from Seven till Ten, for gentlemen only; on Fridays, however, the Morning Exhibition for gentlemen will close at Two o'clock, when ladies only will be admitted until Five o'clock. Explanations for gentlemen by Dr. Leach, and for ladies by Mrs. Leach. Admission, 1s.

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CHUBB and SON beg to lay before the Public

the two following Letters, which they have lately received, as affording further proof of the Security of their Manufactures:—
INEFFECTUAL ATTEMPT UPON THE STRONG-ROOM OF THE LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY, LIVERPOOL.

"London and North-Western Railway Company, Liverpool 17th May, 1853.

"Gentlemen,—I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to the efficiency of the Iron Door and Locks of your make, which Secure the Strong-room at this Office, and which completely baffled the efforts of one or more Burglars to get at the money chest on the night of Thursday last; although it is evident that considerable force was used to break open the Door.

"I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,
Messrs. Chubb and Son."

From Mr. OTWAY, Superintendent of Police, C Division.

"8, Great Vine-street, May 3rd, 1853.

"Gentlemen,—I have the pleasure to inform you that having once your Locks on the street door of my house prevented my being robbed last night. The thief tried to open it, but not succeeding, has so damaged it that I have sent it to you for inspection, and shall be obliged if you will have it repaired.

"I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
"C. OTWAY.

Messrs. Chubb and Son." Superintendent C Division of Police.

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(Continued from page 83.)

very limited proprietary. A few great capitalists were frequently the sole shareholders of the undertaking. Yet they have amassed enormous profits. The problem of the Unity Fire Insurance Association appears to be: If the interest of 200 shareholders will produce such results, what will be the result of the combined interests of thousands of shareholders, each one having the success and welfare of the institution at heart? To secure this interest, the capital is fixed at £1,000,000 sterling, divided into 500,000 shares of £2 each, with a deposit of 5s. per share. The profits are divisible in the proportion of one-third to the shareholders and two-thirds to the insurers. The result of the principle of thus identifying the interest of the shareholder and the insurer is, that the deed which bears date the 22nd of July, 1852, has, in twelve months, been signed by nearly four thousand shareholders, including bankers, merchants, professional men, and traders of all kinds, resident in most of the important towns in England; while already the institution has insured nearly three millions of property. For the midland districts a fire brigade is in course of organization; and at Birmingham the Association is now engaged in erecting a central office, an engraving of which we this day present to our readers; and which, when completed, will be an architectural ornament to the town. In Birmingham the Unity possess nearly 800 shareholders.

The architect of the offices now building is Mr. S. Hemming. The style is modern Italian. The whole area of the site is occupied with vaults; whilst the ground story is appropriated to the offices of the company, which comprise board-room, secretary's room, and general office; to two other sets of offices; and to the establishment of the fire brigade, consisting of engine-house, firemen's rooms, stabling, and cottages for the use of the firemen. The three floors are each arranged into three distinct sets of chambers, approached by a stone staircase, and communicating, by means of fire-proof corridors, with the various offices. The principal elevation, in Temple-street, will be four stories in height; the basement of which is rusticated with ashlar face; the upper stories, of best red brick and Bath stone dressings, surmounted by a deeply-projecting cornice, with stone parapet. In the centre will be placed a sculptured group of Britannia supported by Prudence and Justice. The sole contractor for the work is Mr. Charles Jones, of Duke-street, Birmingham.

ROYAL ST. GEORGE YACHT CLUB REGATTA.

THE aquatic sports commenced on the 26th ult., in the harbour of Kingstown and Bay of Dublin, under the auspices of the patrons and members of the Royal St. George Yacht Club.

In the earlier part of the day the weather was lowering and tempestuous: sharp showers of rain fell about eleven o'clock, accompanied with squalls from the south-west; but, after a heavy shower or two, the weather cleared up; and the wind, veering round to the northward, blew in a steady topsail breeze from the north-west during the day, to the great delight of the yachtsmen in harbour, who revelled in the certainty of a spanking half-gale, well calculated to develop the weatherly qualities, and test the speed under canvas, of as fine a fleet of yachts as we have seen for a long time moored in the harbour of Kingtown. As the rain cleared off, the view, in the bright sunshine on land and water, was singularly beautiful. The spectator, looking seaward, might behold the harbour crowded with yachts of all sizes, build, and tonnage—from the magnificent cutter of the Vice-Commodore, and the rakish schooners

and beautifully-moulded clipper craft of various visitors, to the not less beautiful but tiny pleasure-boats belonging to the category of the "Ringsend squadron;" or the "Carlisle-bridge fleet."

The harbour also contained several merchant craft, including a Grecian brig, from Smyraa; a Russian barque, and a Yankee brigantine. The yacht of the Vice-Commodore, covered from deck to truck with flags of a thousand hues, formed the centre of a fleet of pleasure craft. Myriads of small pleasure-boats might be seen flitting across the harbour, or stretching outwards across the bay. In mid-harbour were moored two of the mail steamers; whilst farther out towards the eastern pier, her Majesty's noble steam-frigate the *Blenheim* rode at anchor, and was decked in honour of the occasion with signal flags of varied colours.

On shore the prospect was scarcely less brilliant and exciting. The jetty, as also the harbour piers along their entire extent, were thronged with spectators. The road outside the chains of the jetty promenade was crowded with the equipages of nobility and gentry. The bastions of the railway-station terrace, and the signal towers of the two Royal Yacht Club-houses, were surmounted by flag staves bearing the English ensign, the white cross of St. George, and the green burgee of Ireland. The *élite* of the nobility and gentry were present. Her Excellency the

Countess of St. Germans arrived at the Royal St. George Club-house at about a quarter before two o'clock, and was conducted to a *fauteuil* prepared for her on the Club-house terrace, commanding a view of the harbour. Before the aquatic sports commenced, her Excellency, and a large party of the nobility and gentry inspected the *Blenheim*.

The first Sailing Match was for a prize of a piece of plate, value 150 sovs., presented by the Royal St. George Yacht Club, open to all yachts of 25 tons and upwards, belonging to Royal Yacht Clubs; a time race; the long course twice round the bay. Five splendid boats started for this race, and came in as follows:—1. *Volante*, 48 tons, R. Craigie, R.T.Y.C.; 2. *Marina*, 53, W. J. Foster, R.W.Y.C.; 3. *Cynthia*, 50, H. Roe, jun., Esq., R.St.G.Y.C.; 4. *Irish Lily*, 79, R. W. Hillas, Esq., R.W.Y.C.; 5. *Coralie*, 35, A. E. Byrne, Esq., R.W.Y.C. This was a beautiful race; the five splendid yachts above named started a few minutes before eleven o'clock. The *Volante* took the lead from the first; but, on approaching the Kish buoy, she lost way in coming about; but she soon made up for this temporary check. The yachts came in in the following time:—*Volante*, 4h. 37m.; *Marina*, 4h. 47m.; *Irish Lily*, 4h. 46m. 17s.; *Cynthia*, 4h. 51m. 37s.; *Coralie*, 4h. 55m. 35s.

The second prize, value 30 sovs., was contested by ten yachts, all under 25 tons, round the short course twice. The following yachts started:—*Onda*, *Tern*, *Virago*, *Fingal*, *Champion*, *Kelpie*, *Mask*, *Fayaway*, *Spray*, and *Imp*. The *Onda* came in first, having run the course in 4h. 53m. 20s. The *Kelpie* came second, doing it in 5h. 6m. 25s. The others were not placed.

The third prize, value 5 sovs., was contested by nine yachts, under five tons. The *Swan* came in the winner, in 3h. 33m. 15s. The *Sheen*, *Ariel*, and *Medora* came in almost immediately after. This was a closely-contested race. In this race an accident of a serious nature occurred to one of the competing boats named the *Bat*. In running home, the boat had reached the second flag-boat in the harbour, when a heavy squall caught them, in which the *Bat* was capsized; when the crew, who were struggling in the water, were assisted by Mr. Joseph A. Clarke, jun., of Liverpool, who was sailing the celebrated American boat, the *Truant*, and thus lost his chance of winning, from his position in the race, was a very favourable one.

The first Rowing Match, for 40 sovereigns, presented by the Kingstown Railway Company for four-oared boats, was contested by the *Umbra* and *Mystery*, University Club boats, by the *Effe*, *Kings-town*, and *Falcon*, Cork Club boats, and by the *Nemesis*, which came in first, after a brilliant race.

The other rowing and punt matches were contested with great spirit and the sports of the day did not conclude until a late hour. A series of brilliant fireworks were exhibited from the club-houses and yachts in the harbour after dark.

The sports of Wednesday comprised some interesting matches.

The members of the Royal St. George Yacht Club gave a *déjeuner*, which was attended by upwards of five hundred of the nobility and *élite*. Shortly after three o'clock her Excellency the Countess of St. Germans and her suite reached the landing-place from the barge of the *Blenheim* ship of war, and at five the Viceregal party and the other guests were assembled in the banqueting-room. On this occasion the extensive boat-house, the lower range of the building, had been handsomely fitted up for the *déjeuner*, leaving the suite of apartments above for dancing and evening refreshment saloons. Dancing followed, and was kept up with great spirit and animation until a late hour.

The members of the Royal Western Yacht Club entertained a large party of friends, about 150 in number, on board their club yacht, *Owen Glendower*. After having partaken of a very elegant repast, the company assembled on deck, where dancing to the music by the splendid band of the 90th regiment was kept up to an advanced hour of the evening.



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THE DUBLIN HARBOUR REGATTA.—YACHTS IN THE FIRST RACE WINDING THE FIRST FLAG-BOAT.